

The Holiday Gift Guide

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> Pages 13-16

The Bethel Citizen

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Thursday, December 10, 2015

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SHARING THE WARMTH OF THE SEASON—Among Saturday's Christmas season events around Bethel was the annual Christmas Tea and Fair at the West Parish Congregational Church. Serving tea and tasty food were, front: Marilyn Sahlberg, Beth Brough, Mary LeConey. Back: Linda Gamble, Sharon Lyon, Ellen Marshall and Jan Stowell. For photos of other activities, see Page 9.

Newry withdrawal consultant: Voters disenfranchised by SAD 44 stance

BY ALISON ALOISIO

The Newry Withdrawal Committee and its legal and educational consultants were asking themselves "What's next?" last week after feeling stymied by their SAD 44 counterparts. The two groups tried mediation in an effort to come up with a withdrawal agreement for the Town of Newry to vote on (see last week's Citizen).

'The Newry citizens might not accept withdrawal, but they aren't even going to get a chance to vote on a proposal.'

- Dr. Mark Eastman

But the SAD 44 panel is sticking with nearly the same bargaining position regarding financial settlements with Newry that it has held for several months, arguing that anything else would be unfair to the other towns in the district. SAD 44 did offer to explore the possibility of more voting power

on the School Board for Newry, if the town would end the withdrawal process, but the Newry negotiators rejected it, saying they did not have the authority to do that. Newry educational consultant Dr. Mark Eastman (former superintendent in SAD 17) and legal consultant Dan Stockford are experienced in the withdrawal process, having advised other towns. But both said they have never seen

anything like the situation between Newry and SAD 44. "I've never seen a flat 'no' with no counter," said Eastman at last week's committee meeting. "To me this is scary. All you have to do is say 'no' and not negotiate."

See SAD 44, Page 3

Historic preservationist: Ethel Bisbee School worth saving

BY ALISON ALOISIO

Bethel selectmen recently invited Christi Mitchell of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission to tour the old Ethel Bisbee School building with them, as they try to decide what to recommend to voters for the future of the structure - save it or tear it down.

Her preliminary assess-

ment: fix it and use it.

"It has an incredible amount of historic integrity. Is it worthwhile? I would say absolutely," Mitchell said last Thursday.

The school, built in 1925 and expanded in 1947, was given to the town by SAD 44 last year.

Selectmen have been wrestling since then with what to do with the two-

acre property and building. Ideas have ranged from restoring/renovating it for use as a community center to tearing it down and using the land for recreation facilities.

Mitchell, a historic preservationist, told town officials this fall that the building would be eligible for consideration for the National Register of Historic Places.

As they toured it last week, she said EBS appeared to be "in fairly good shape." While she acknowledged she is not an engineer, Mitchell said the building seems to be structurally sound. But she recommended the town have an engineer evaluate it.

As for potential uses for the building, Mitchell said

See Bisbee, Page 3

Bethel seeks street tree inventory grant

BY ALISON ALOISIO

Bethel selectmen last week approved a request from the Bethel Conservation Commission to apply for a grant to complete a "street tree inventory."

The \$6,000 value grant, from Project Canopy, would include \$2,800 in money reimbursable to the town after expenses are paid, according to Jesse Perkins of the BCC, who is writing the application.

Another \$3,200 in "in-

kind donations" would constitute the local match for the grant.

If the grant is approved, Perkins said, a summer intern position would be created and that person would work with a forester, the BCC and volunteers to complete the inventory in the village, the area of Davis Park and other public spaces.

The intern would use office space donated by the Mahoosuc Land Trust.

Perkins said in her draft application, "The Bethel

Conservation Commission intends to use this street tree inventory as the basis for establishing a long-term plan for tree planting, maintenance, and interpretation throughout the Town of Bethel, with hopes of inspiring other adjacent towns to do the same."

The tree inventory would gather such information as the age and health of existing trees. The inventory could be used as a basis for making a plan to replace trees in they fall victim to

invasive insects, climate change or extreme weather. There could also be an educational component of the project for students of all ages, Perkins said.

The inventory and recommendations could be included in the town's Comprehensive Plan, which is currently undergoing revision, Perkins said.

The selectmen discussed the proposal.

"I think it's a wonderful idea," said Pat Carter.

See Trees, Page 3

"The Early History of Greenwood, Maine"

BY ALISON ALOISIO

In anticipation of next year's Bicentennial celebration - and just in time for

Christmas - the Greenwood Historical Society has published a book entitled "The Early History of Greenwood, Maine."

The 100-page book, written by Blaine Mills of the GHS, covers the history of the small town between the years 1800 and 1850.

"We felt that with the 200th, it would be too bad not to have something," said Mills. "We had enough to do a bit of early history."

For the past 20 years he has been working on a more comprehensive history of the town, but he doesn't expect to complete it in his lifetime.

The book is organized based roughly on the "neighborhoods" of the town in the old days. There were 17 of them, ranging from the Irish Neighborhood to the Bryant Neighborhood to Young Hill.

Mills said he tried to get the first three settlers from each neighborhood into the book, along with a list of other early settlers.

The publication also has

a section at the end on the history of "The Alder River Ponds of Greenwood and Woodstock, Maine."

"We wanted to include it because we have a lot of [GHS] members who are summer people," said Will Chapman, who edited and formatted the book.

There are more than 60 old photos throughout the book, but since photography did not exist back to the beginning of the town history, most of the photos are from the latter 19th and early 20th centuries.

The oldest one portrays Main Street in 1872.

"We tried to get at least one photo of each neighborhood," said Mills.

They also have a photo of a school from every neighborhood that had a school, with most of the children identified, Chapman said.

See Greenwood, Page 3

Newry to hire Paris town manager as administrator

Newry selectmen plan to appoint Amy Bernard next week as town administrator, at a starting salary of \$60,000, according to Selectman Wendy Hanscom.

Bernard, who for the past three years has held the position of town manager of Paris, will join the Newry staff in January. Her most recent salary in Paris was \$63,000, according to published reports in the Sun Journal.

The appointment, expected for three years, will take place formally at Tuesday's regular selectmen's meeting, Hanscom said.

In a statement released Friday, board Chair Gary Wight said, "We are pleased to find someone with Amy's experience and training. She has a strong academic and town management background. We look forward to her continuing to help us provide outstanding services to our taxpayers and community."

Before serving in Paris, Bernard spent four years as town manager in Wayne, Maine.

Bernard has a BA in political science and history from the University of Maine at Farmington and a masters in public administration from the University of Maine.

She, her partner Tim and young son Gage live in Rumford.

S. Timberlake Co. takes a new turn

BY ALISON ALOISIO

A California woman who "fell in love with Bethel" a decade ago has bought the S. Timberlake LLC Shaker Chair business in Mayville. S. Timberlake was established in 1974 by the late Sam Timberlake and his son, Ross. The company makes Shaker reproduction chairs, stools, and rocking chairs which it sells worldwide.

Ross and his wife, Carole, have operated the business largely on their own for the past 15 years.

"I decided 10 years ago to start an exit plan," Ross said. Enter Kay Stewart of Palo Alto, Calif.

Stewart, a retired CPA, first came to Bethel 10 years ago when her daughter attended Gould Academy.

She bought a table from the Timberlakes, and as she returned over the years bought other pieces of furniture as

well. And she was curious. "She'd ask me things about the business," Ross said. Said Stewart, "I thought, 'Someday I'm going to be doing something like this,' never thinking I would actually own the company that inspired me."

Although the purchase means she has come out of retirement, it doesn't mean

See Timberlake, Page 3

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Bethel
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Letters

BULL BRANCH OLD FOREST

To the Editor:

Here is a reminder about conservation of old forest on public lands in the Bull Branch watershed.

Groups of old trees hold clues about how the original forests grew and supported wildlife. Their growth rings reveal parts of our own history as well – about the weather, fires, and storms our ancestors experienced. Small and large tracts of old forest are important for many other scientific and conservation purposes.

Locally, there are two small areas of old northern hardwoods on state land above the Bull Branch – approximately 35 acres in total so far. These are not simply scattered old trees, they are intact stands in which most of the dominant trees are more than 150 years old and many exceed 200 years. These "late-successional" stands have now been verified by two independent experts.

The stands at Bull Branch are not significant when compared with our great old growth, in places like the Five Ponds Wilderness in New York, or even Big Reed Preserve in Maine's Piscataquis County. However, here in western Maine old woods are uncommon, and there are a lot of neat-looking gnarled old trees in these stands.

If there are folks who feel that old forest on public lands are worth keeping around, for ourselves or even our grandchildren, now is the time to let our public officials know.

Representative Fran Head: franmillshead@gmail.com.
Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands Regional Forester Pete Smith: Peter.D.Smith@maine.gov.

Ken Hotopp
Newry

'IF YOU DON'T KNOW' RESPONSE

To the Editor:

In response to Chandler McGrew's letter of Nov. 25, titled "If you don't know," there are just too many "so-called" facts to answer all of them, so let's stick with Hillary Clinton who he says is innocent of any wrongdoing in the Benghazi incident.

If you don't know, according to the latest Quinnipiac University poll, "liar" is the first word that comes to mind when voters think of Clinton...and here are just a few reasons why.

In 1998, the Clintons were cited for the illegal use of FBI files against political opponents.

In 1999, again information was uncovered that Hillary Clinton was the mastermind behind the scheme to use confidential FBI background files to misuse against Republicans and other Clinton opponents.

In 2001, the Clintons were forced to return some of the White House property and gifts which they took on their way out of the White House.

2012-ongoing, an unprecedented investigation into the security lapses that existed at the Benghazi Consulate, which was attacked with four American citizens killed. There was an immediate cover-up that began within hours of the attack, including statements made by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, that the attack may have been caused by a cheap anti-Muslim video. We all know now that she lied and continues to stonewall and lie. She knew from the beginning that it was a well planned attack by fighters tied to terrorist groups and she alone is responsible for those American's deaths because she refused to increase security at the Consulate even after repeated requests by the diplomats.

2012-2015, during Hillary Clinton's tenure as Secretary of State, the department approved 215 speeches by her husband which earned them \$48 million. As an aside, not one request was denied as Bill and Hillary raked in the millions. Furthermore, this rubber-stamping of Bill's speeches opened up an investigation into The Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Foundation which led to the knowledge that they were involved in massive overseas fundraising. The millions coming from foreign countries have raised many questions about the impact that these contributions may have had on Hillary's decisions as Secretary of State. Taking that a little further, what countries does she owe favors if she ever were to be elected President.

2015, of course, Hillary is in the middle of another scandal. Clinton's secret, unsecured and improper e-mail accounts. It should be noted that Federal Code 18 USC 1001 provides a five-year prison term for lying to the feds or covering up a material fact in any investigation, even when not under oath.

If you don't know, instead of Hillary getting four years in the White House, she may be getting five years in the 'big house.'

Carmine Castaldo
Bethel

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Citizen welcomes letters to the editor. We hope our readers will regard the newspaper as a public forum for discussing topics they believe to be of interest to the community.

The deadline for letters to the editor is 4:30 p.m. Monday. Letters run on a space-available basis. Those submitted after the deadline will be considered for publication when circumstances permit.

Send your letters to: Editor, Bethel Citizen, PO Box 109, Bethel, ME 04217-0109. Fax: 824-2426. E-mail: news@bethelcitizen.com.

The Bethel Citizen

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ROTARY CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN 2015

To the Editor:

The Bethel Rotary Club is pleased to announce that it will once again be sponsoring its annual Christmas For Children program. Since 1987, this vital community project has helped to provide important assistance during the holiday season for many needy children and families who live in the MSAD 44 area.

Anyone interested in donating to this effort is urged to send his or her contribution to: Bethel Rotary Club Christmas For Children, PO Box 471, Bethel, Maine 04217.

Requests for assistance may also be mailed to the same address or dropped off at any school office in MSAD 44. Please note that assistance is provided only to families who reside in the MSAD 44 area and requests can only be accepted from the parents or legal guardians of the children. The Rotary Club is pleased to be able to assist families with children up to and including high school age. All requests must include the name and age of each child. A telephone number and mailing address should also be included. This year, we are also asking that requests for assistance contain an e-mail address, if one is available.

Once again this year, Rotarians will be collecting donations at the Bethel Foodliner on several Saturdays between now and the holidays.

On behalf of the entire Bethel Rotary Club, I would like to thank the community for the ongoing generosity and support it has shown for this program over the many years of its existence. Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season!

Kevin Finley, D.O., President
Bethel Rotary Club

LIGHT UP MAIN STREET THANKS

To the Editor:

"What a great small-town tradition!" "Bethel really knows how to do Christmas!" These were just a couple of the many comments I overheard in the rollicking crowd that walked from the Philbrook Place parking lot to the Bethel Common early Saturday evening on the Light Up Main Street Jingle Walk! If the happy faces and jingling chatter were a measure of success, it was an incredible event!

These kinds of happenings come through quite a bit of orchestration behind the scenes and there are many who should be recognized for their contribution to its success! The concept of lighting up Main Street came from volunteer resident Stephanie Herbeck who contacted the Chamber offering her help and ideas. Her efforts contacting Bethel Main Street businesses – with the offer of helping string lights – were nothing short of phenomenal. She also spent time contacting the schools and other key individuals (including her two daughters) to help with various tasks as well as supplying some larger bells to supplement the little jingle bells we had on hand from Bevin Bells. Thanks to Stephanie – our new Main Street Christmas champion!

Additional help was provided by Mike Jodrey of the Bethel Fire Department (great transportation for Santa and Mrs. Claus), Ellie Andrews (supplied the outfits), the Oxford County Sheriff deputies who provided traffic control, Haley Tripp for the hot chocolate, Bethel Rite Aid for the candy canes, Craig Angevine from Yeah Bud! Photography, all the businesses that "lit up," and last but certainly not least, Malinda and Brian Gagnon – aka Santa and Mrs. Claus!

Finally to all who came out on a very busy day to join in the fun, keeping the young children safe, caroling, and adding to the holiday cheer that we cherish here in "small-town Maine!"

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season – and remember, "shop local!" It's safe, friendly and uncrowded here, and all that you invest in our small businesses gets reinvested back into our communities!

Robin Zinchuk, Executive Director
Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce

WMSC PRIME TIME PLAYERS THANKS

To the Editor:

Who would have thought, back in 2006, that the group of amateur actors, then under the direction of Lynn Arizzi, would still be doing their thing in 2015? Certainly not those of us who have been involved every year since then. But we are still alive and enjoying our amateur theatricals with both new and more experienced players a part of the group.

The Western Mountains Senior College Prime Time Players recently presented their ninth performances on Nov. 20 and 21, before two full houses in the Trustees' Auditorium in Gould's McLaughlin Science Building.

We have much to be thankful for, and many individuals and organizations to thank for enabling us to do what we do: West Parish Congregational Church for allowing us to rehearse in their building; Gould Academy for the use of the Trustees' Auditorium for performances; Bob McCartney for providing photographs for our advertising posters and programs; Irene Kuchta for handling out programs, supervising the cookie table at intermission, and "suggesting" donations to help us pay royalties; Jack Kuchta, for organizing everything and prodding us to do our best; Peter Musso for helping with props and stage set-ups; Ross Timberlake for working the lighting and for introducing the individual plays in his unique and incomparable way; Carole Timberlake for helping with props and useful suggestions; and very special thanks to our wonderful audiences, who laughed in all the right places and made us feel good with their applause and support.

We are already thinking about next year, which will mark our 10th anniversary. Stand by for details as they become available!

Sincere thanks from the Players!

Lorrie Hoeh
Bethel

WHOSE DISHONEST PROPAGANDA MACHINE?

To the Editor:

I think Seabury Lyon must have taken some lessons from Goebbels, and I resent strongly that I am portrayed as dishonest! I stand by all that I have written in my articles to the "Citizen."

I consider Mr. Lyon's letter totally out of the bounds of honest commentary, but I guess that is to be expected of an Obama liberal. It seems to me that he fits into the category of liberals who can't stand to be confronted by the truth. This type typically reacts initially by starting to talk faster and louder, hoping to baffle you with big words and BS. If that doesn't work they begin calling you names and accuse you or comparing you to some other heinous individuals or cults, hence Mr. Lyon's implications that republicans and myself are as bad as Nazi Propagandists!

I'd like to remind him of some of the accomplishments of his favored Democrats: Let's start with the city of Detroit, which was forced into bankruptcy by years of Democratic leadership and corruption. The City of Baltimore, ruled by Democratic mayors and politicians for 40 or 50 years, deeply in debt and hounded by one of the highest homicide rates in the nation. Then there is the City of Chicago, run by Democratic political machines for more years than I can remember and with some of the strongest gun laws in the nation, again one of the highest (if not the highest) homicide rates and tax rates in the country. The state of Illinois has several former Democratic governors who are now or were previously in jail for fraud or other criminal acts as governor.

Now, look at the state of Wisconsin, a heavily Democratic state, now ruled by a Republican governor who has enabled the state to pay off the huge deficit run up by Democrats and is now running a surplus. The state of Ohio has a similar record, where a Republican governor has helped the state back into the black and has reduced state income taxes as well as increasing employment in the state. Similar comparisons can be made across this nation.

I think Mr. Lyon and Mr. McGrew need to remove their Democrat "rose colored glasses" and read some honest conservative sources, such as Judicial Watch once in a while. They can probably come up with a lot more colorful adjectives then. Perhaps they could read some of the so called "lost" e-mails and other documents revealed as a result of FOIA lawsuits against agencies of the Obama government.

Richard Grover
Mason

Greenwood selectmen's meeting minutes

Nov. 17, 2015

1. Open Meeting – Selectman Jordan called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. with Selectman Amy Chapman, Town Manager Kimberly Sparks, and Deputy Clerk Angela Lovejoy attendance. Chair Henderson was absent. 2. Pledge of Allegiance – Recited the Pledge of Allegiance. 3. Warrants – It was motioned and seconded to accept amended Warrant #19 (from \$20,898.69 to \$21,002.69) to correct voucher number 586, Warrant #20 (\$9,207.15), and Warrant #21 (\$11,098.34). Motion passed 2-0. 4. Minutes – It was motioned and seconded to accept the minutes of Nov. 3, 2015 as written. Motion passed 2-0. 5. Comments from the Public – Attendees were at the meeting for specific agenda items. No Selectboard members were contacted outside the meeting. 6. Presentation by Telstar Youth Football Group – David Goodwin attended with two of his sons who played football. Goodwin presented the Selectboard with an embossed Telstar Rebels football helmet on behalf of the Telstar Football Youth Group. He thanked the Board for their support and use of the Dunham Field for the group's practices. Goodwin said the Group was trying to start a new flag football team for grades K-2 and a group was also organizing to possibly start a cheerleading group. He said there were 35 girls interested from grades 7-12. 7. Quit Claim Deed for Michael Fischer – Town Manager Sparks said Mr. Fischer had a closing agreement on the property. She said the Quit Claim would not be recorded until the Town received the money for the taxes. The Board signed the Quit Claim Deed. 8. Johnny's Bridge – Town Manager Sparks mentioned that Chair Henderson told her he was concerned that the Town might draw down the pond water for construction before the regular draw-down period in the fall and he was worried about having to build a coffer dam and the expense that would be incurred by that. The Board agreed to keep that in mind as project plans developed in the future. Selectman Jordan asked if the Town needed to contact the Army Corps. Sparks said a permit would need to be filed with that organization and the Department of Environmental Protection. 9. Meetings and Events – Dec. 15, 2015 Selectboard meeting at the Town Office at 5 p.m. to include discussion with State Trooper Jason Wing. 10. Adjourn – It was motioned and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m. Motion passed 2-0.

Our Back Pages

BY DANNA BROWN
NICKERSON

10 years ago: The Telstar Class of 2006 was raising money for their Project Graduation celebration by selling Christmas trees at the Kids for Trees lot on Route 26.

The Telstar Middle School Music and Art departments teamed up to present the first annual ArtReach holiday art show and concert.

Birth: Alexander Joseph Chase.

Deaths: Madeline May Cluff, Laila Irene Suomela, Jalna F. Smith, Arthur E. Kangas.

20 years ago: A weekend fire totally destroyed the Olde Rowley Inn in North Waterford.

Steven Jackson of Gorham, N.H., was named the new Nordic director at the Bethel Inn and Country Club.

Birth: Matthew Louis Kersey.

Death: Charlotte Alta Thomas.

30 years ago: An early morning fire severely damaged the former Legion Hall in Locke's Mills which was being used as a workshop by Al Saunders.

The West Paris Grange 298 held a successful "food and what-not sale" which raised over \$200.

Deaths: Vesta B. Nelson, Harry E. Poland, Lispernard B. Phister.

40 years ago: The Teen Ballet Troupe, under the direction of Susan Farrar, presented the mini-ballet, "Tubby, the Tuba."

Sudbury Inn owner John Gasser announced that "The Goodsounds," a three piece dance combo would provide music for dancing every Saturday evening.

Deaths: Earl R. Brooks, Mrs. Ethel Sanborn, Mrs. Margaret Iver Johnston, Mrs. Athle Vail.

50 years ago: Two families were left temporarily homeless after flames spread quickly through the two-apartment dwelling owned by Mrs. Clyde Brooks on the Intervale Road.

Plans were underway for Bethel's second annual "Living Nativity Scene."

Death: Elbert R. Briggs.

60 years ago: A ten-wheel truck loaded with bags of spools and owned by the Stowell Spool Company, Bryant Pond overturned when the driver swerved to avoid hitting a kitten.

The Gould Academy Outing Club was maintaining a skating rink on the girls' athletic field for the third consecutive year.

Death: Mrs. Bertha Wiley Chase.

70 years ago: Ice was being harvested from Songo Pond.

Programs for the "Village Forum" were published. Speakers included Rev. Joseph Evans, minister from New York City, Dr. Charles Phillips, President of Bates College, and Victor Coty, nationally known sportsman.

Deaths: Dr. Bertram E. Packard, Simeon A. Farr.

80 years ago: A new contrivance consisting of two trucks behind a plow which was planned by E.P. Brown was making good on roads where a tractor plow had been necessary.

A crew of men from Copway were taking down the Stowell mill at West Bethel.

Death: Mrs. Mary Ann Dearden.

90 years ago: Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Grover and six children of Upton Street, Andover, were made homeless by a fire caused by a dropped gasoline lamp.

The Bethel basketball team went to Errol, N.H., where they defeated the Upton town team by a score of 29 to 15.

Birth: Ruth Margaret Wood.

Death: Rev. Nahum W. Grover, William A. Morrill.

110 years ago: Dr. G.L. Sturdivant left Bethel to continue his practice in Yarmouth. Dr. Raymond R. Tibbets of Palermo was expected to open a practice in Bethel soon.

People from Northwest Bethel were crossing the Androscoggin to West Bethel on the ice.

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Timberlake

Continued from page 1



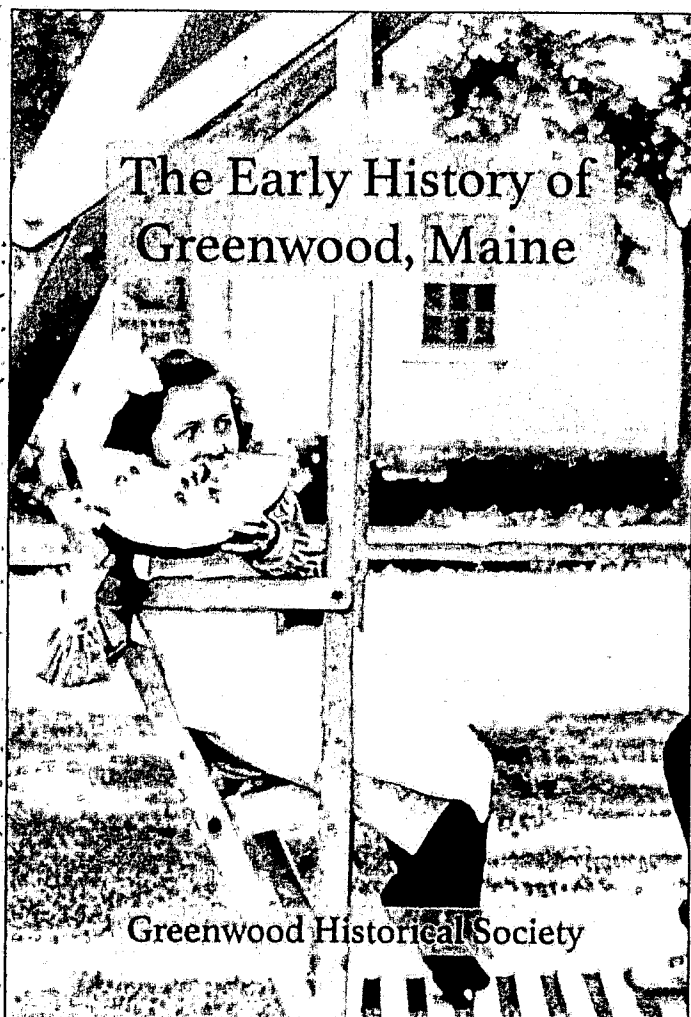
Ross Timberlake and Kay Stewart in the entrance to the S. Timberlake Co. shop on Route 2 in Bethel's Mayville area. A. Aloisio

she's moving to Bethel and taking over operations. Stewart said she is not a furniture maker. "I know numbers, and how to analyze them," she said. For now, Ross will continue to manage the business. The two hope to grow S. Timberlake, add jobs and transition it to a younger generation. "We hope to find a career-minded individual who has a passion about woodworking and wants to learn the skills," Ross said.

While they intend to continue the focus on Shaker reproduction furniture - "the Shaker legacy has always been important to me," said Ross, he plans to add some more original contemporary furniture designs that blend well with Shaker to their catalog of products. He will also continue to accept orders on custom-made furniture items under the name Timberlake and Company. For more on S. Timberlake go to www.stimberlake.com.

Greenwood

Continued from page 1



The cover of the new book on early Greenwood history, published by the Historical Society. This photo from around 1905, shows Ruth Stowell, with the current main building of the GHS in the background. Blaine Mills said the picture was most likely taken on July 4. He remembers as a child that was the only time of year watermelon was available.

Other photos depict family homes and activities of the time, such as logging. The ponds history section features photos by Nettie Maxim. The books are available

for \$12 each at the Greenwood Town Office, as well as online at www.lulu.com. A visit to the GHS Facebook page also provides a link to online ordering.

SAD 44

Continued from page 1

and you stonewall whatever community is trying to withdraw from a district. What I see is the complete disenfranchisement of the Newry citizens. The Newry citizens might not accept withdrawal, but they aren't even going to get a chance to vote on a proposal."

A state Department of Education official said last week that while the law requires an agreement within 90 days of the start of the process, an extension is always granted when delays occur, and there is no provision for indefinite delays.

Stockford added the Newry situation is a unique one because of the significant financial implications involved, and that in other withdrawal processes the circumstances have been such that the parties usually want to come to an agreement.

Former Selectman Brooks Morton, who also attended the committee meeting, asked if it was legal for SAD 44 to "refuse to negotiate."

Stockford said the issue of good faith negotiations has not been tested in court in other situations, but that Newry could consider pursuing legal action.

Committee Chairman Jim Sysko said he had heard from "a couple of people" who had offered private donations toward a lawsuit against SAD 44. He said that with the anticipated bills to cover mediation costs, the town will be down to about \$10,000 left of the \$50,000 approved by voters for consultant fees for the withdrawal process.

Sysko threw the discussion open to the handful of Newry residents who attended the meeting, asking whether it was worthwhile to continue negotiating.

Doug Webster said to continue to negotiate with no prospects for resolution would be "a waste of our resources." He suggested looking for another solution.

Said Morton, "I wouldn't back down, just on the principle. They're turning this into an undemocratic process."

"I wouldn't [back down] either," said Gary Drown. "You can't do anything. They've got you," said Tama Drown.

Stockford was asked a procedural question on whether, if there was a reason to end the withdrawal process, the town could set a vote on it. He said it was possible.

"The Withdrawal Committee has a mission and a mandate to come up with a withdrawal agreement. If they decide to terminate the process, then there should be a vote from the town," he said. Selectmen would have the authority to set such a vote, he said.

The committee then went into executive session to discuss strategy.

Sysko said Monday that after that session the committee voted unanimously "to ask SAD 44 for a good faith counter-proposal that doesn't require us to give up our withdrawal effort. The words 'good faith' will be emphasized."

POLAK RESPONSE

Polak was asked Monday if his panel has been bargaining in good faith.

"The short answer to whether or not we are bargaining is good faith is absolutely 'yes,'" he said. "Our 'good faith bargaining' is based on the fact that we are negotiating on

behalf of the entire district: students, homeowners and businesses.

"We have made our own proposals to the NWC and they have rejected these. The current funding arrangement established and maintained by the Maine Legislature is unique and has already set a precedent.

"We care about the future of public education for all the students in this district, and withdrawal as proposed by the NWC will likely have a significant negative impact on all our students because of the dramatic change in funding.

Polak went on to address another issue that arose during mediation between the negotiating parties: the attendance record of the Newry panel.

"I thought that mediation was supposed to be both sides making proposals and both sides listening and responding," he said. "Our entire committee attended both sessions in Portland. The NWC only had two members out of four present. It's very difficult to negotiate with only half of a committee."

At the Newry committee meeting last week, the four members also discussed their attendance at the mediation (only Sysko and Gary Wight were present).

But Stockford said all of the committee members were not required to be there.

"My view of that was that it was a pretext, a red herring, for them being unwilling to make any offer to us," he said.

Eastman added that the Newry group has in the past negotiated with only Polak and Supt. Dave Murphy present for SAD 44.

Trees

Continued from page 1

"Trees are very important for the town," said Stan Howe.

"I'm all in favor of this," said Don Bennett.

One portion of the proposal did concern Bennett, however - the creation of a "tree care ordinance."

Bennett wondered if that could lead to strict rules resulting in particular trees having to be cut.

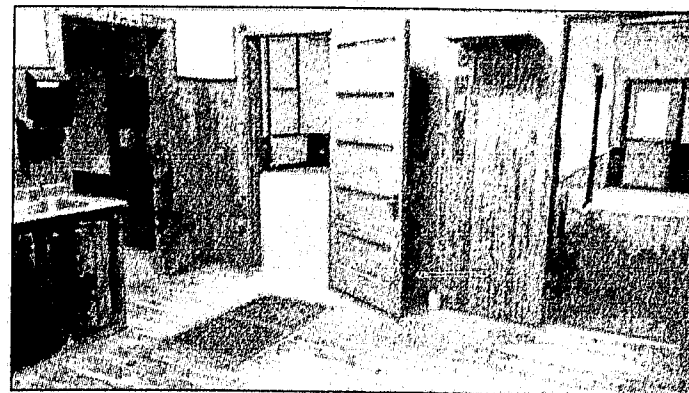
Perkins said the wording could be "softened" to address that concern.

She said the project would also encourage the use of native trees and shrubs in town landscaping projects, as well as in the areas of new development.

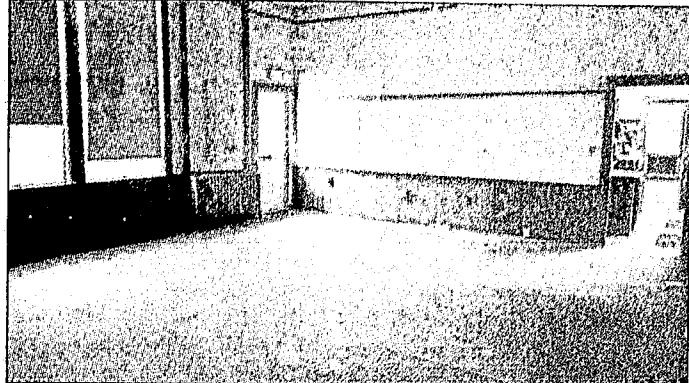
The town will get word if the grant is approved in February. If it is, said Perkins, the upfront costs could be put into next year's town budget. The inventory would take place in the summer, with recommendations to the town coming in September.

Bisbee

Continued from page 1



The lobby of EBS, with the office at left. A. Aloisio



A classroom in the original part of the Ethel Bisbee School. A. Aloisio

the MHPC works with many developers who convert old schools into senior housing, with apartments and community rooms.

"It's a solid building, and if you take it down, you're wasting what you have," she said. Replacing it would cost more than fixing it, she said.

With new paint, carpeting and other improvements, said Mitchell, "this is a functional building."

She told selectmen that for buildings on the National Register, private developers are able to get federal and state tax credits, in the amounts of 20 percent and 25-30 percent, respectively, of their investment.

"A developer can get 50

percent of his costs back in tax credits," she said.

Selectman Don Bennett said he has reservations about Bethel keeping the building, because it might literally stand in the way of other town uses for the land.

Town Manager Christine Landes said after the meeting that the next step in the decision-making process might be to propose money in next year's municipal budget for an engineering evaluation.

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Turkey Tuesday Thank You!!

We'd like to thank everyone who attended and helped make Turkey Tuesday a huge success again this year. Special thanks to American Legion Jackson-Silver Post, North Center Food Service and The Bethel Citizen. A very special thanks to all the volunteers who helped, we couldn't have done it without you!

Our community's generosity raised a truckload of food and over \$2,200 for the District Exchange and Bethel Food Pantry.

We hope to see you all next year!
Heather & Dave

Briefly

Laptops still available

BETHEL-SAD44 still has white Macbooks for sale for Christmas at the reduced price of \$200. Interested persons should visit the following website or call 824-2839 for information: <https://sites.google.com/a/sad44.org/laptop-sale/>



American Pie

BY BETSY RILEY

Game time Sofa Snacks

26, 16, 23...outta the oven! It's December and it's count down time to great games ahead. Well, wait a minute, some of us watch the game from the bleachers, others the sofa sideline and then there are some of us who serve sofa side line snacks and watch the replays. Either way, it's a match made in Heaven with eats treats, stocking'd feet and enthusiasm all around. Now, it probably doesn't require too much thought about my game time position, but man can I cheer...when the coffee table turns into finger food central and I score a home run in the end zone. I hear ya Warner Wolf, "Let's go to the video tape."

Now whatever yer serving, you have to serve it with confidence like the playmaker at the party. A good sofa snack menu includes all food groups and all jersey colors. You need a crunch, some heat, a lil sweet and a mug fulla treats. Game on, score big, eat well, enjoy! Here are some ideas from my playbook.

Hot Pop

Toss any flavor into this huddle for a winner! Place 1/4 c popcorn kernels into a brown grocery bag. Roll top over and cook in microwave on high for as long as the kernels are poppin'. Pour into a large bowl and toss with 2-3 Tbsp melted butter and salt. Hold it ...do not toss in the towel yet, this warm bowl of goodness can be spiced up with cracked pepper, a sprinkling of cayenne, cumin, onion and garlic powder. Feelin' cheesy? Toss popped buttered corn with powdered cheddar or parmesan. Or make it sweet using cinnamon and sugar! A sure footed spectator kickoff treat!

Pork Pullies

(Start this the night before for best flavor and remember this takes all day to cook)
4 lb pork shoulder-serves 8-12

Before bed: Mix in a bowl: 1 Tbsp brown sugar, 2 tsp paprika, 1 tsp chili powder, 1 tsp mustard powder and 1/2 tsp cumin, 2 tsp salt and 1/2 tsp pepper. Rub meat, cover and refrigerate overnight.

When you wake up: Heat 2 Tbsp oil in tall sided pot over med-high heat. Brown meat on all sides. In slow cooker add 1 chopped green pepper, 1 diced onion, 2 cloves of garlic and 6 oz. of beer (cup of water or cider works too) Place meat in slow cooker over med heat and cook for about 8 hours. (Yes, you can peek and test with fork for desired tenderness).

Ready to serve: Remove meat from cooker and place on platter covered with foil ready to "shred". Pour pan drippings into a saucepan and add any or all of the following: 1/4c apple cider vinegar, small can of tomato sauce/ jar of leftover salsa, 2 Tbsp. brown sugar, and 1 cup water and stir over med-high heat until bubbling. Lower heat and simmer for 5-10 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste. Shred meat on platter and serve with pan dripping sauce. Serve with coleslaw and small dinner rolls or...great crispy potato boat filling!

Crispy potato boats

Maine potatoes-you determine the quantity
1/4 c olive oil, 3 cloves garlic (minced), salt and pepper to taste in a jar and shaken to mix.

Preheat oven to 425. Wash and pierce the potatoes, pat dry and place in microwave to "bake". (This is

See Recipes, Page 8

Art@57 MAINE: Building a community art space

BY AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

Main Street's newest shop is an art gallery with a working studio and a workshop/classroom space that welcomes anyone with a desire to explore, experiment, and create.

After weeks of renovations to a portion of the space formerly occupied by Mt. Mann Jewelers in Bethel, local artists and teachers Donna D'Aquino and Lauren Head are ready to open the doors of Art@57 MAINE, and are offering an incentive to stop in this weekend.

"On both Saturday and Sunday, from 11 to 5, we will have a free give-away for everyone who comes to see us," said D'Aquino.

"It will include finished pieces of jewelry, free and discounted classes, and parts of unfinished jewelry, which folks can come in and learn to put together themselves," she said.

Or, for the less artistically adventurous, she added, "they can bring the parts back and I will assemble them."

A shared vision

D'Aquino, who moved to Bethel five years ago, is a full-time studio metalsmith. Working in silver, 18kt gold, and steel, she creates unique sculptural jewelry pieces inspired by drawing and architecture.

Head majored in studio art in college and since 1985 has been an art teacher Gould Academy, where she also coaches ski racing and tennis. She has experience teaching blacksmithing, jewelry, sculpture, painting, drawing, printmaking, and ceramics.

The two first met last summer and soon discovered that they shared a vision for a community art space.

"We had some great conversations about Bethel and what venues there were for people to experience art," said Head. "We thought it would be great to have a small gallery to show our work, and others', and teach workshops and classes to share what we do."

Their original plan was to open a "pop-up shop" somewhere in downtown Bethel, testing the waters for a month or so this winter.

But when the space at 57 Main Street became available, they decided to take the plunge.

Jim Mann owns the building, which also houses the Root Cellar Beauty Salon, as

well as an apartment. Head said he was quickly on board with their vision.

"People who own vacant buildings have often been willing to let artists come in to the space at a reasonable price," she said, adding, "We were very excited about this location. We love the idea of being on Main Street and helping to keep it vibrant."

"It was about having a job I loved."

D'Aquino has some experience with taking chances; she left a "real job" in retail management in 1996 to return to school for her master's degree.

"I literally made that decision in a weekend," she said. She taught at the university level while in graduate school and continued to teach for four more years after obtaining her MFA in metalsmithing.

Although she loved teaching, she decided to devote herself full-time to creating and marketing her art.

"For me, it was never about making a lot of money; it was about having a job I loved," she said.

For the past 16 years, she has traveled all over the country to show and sell her work, averaging at least 100 days a year away from home. D'Aquino looks forward to cutting back on her travel schedule. She will be relocating her studio to the building on Main Street, where it will share space with the showroom. The open design will keep her work visible and she will be available to share her artistic process with visitors and shoppers.

"Learning how to multi-task"

"Donna will be here in the store the majority of the time," said Head, who plans to continue to work full-time at Gould while helping to run the gallery, teaching workshops, and creating her own art.

"One thing about working at a boarding school is learning how to multi-task," she said.

She takes advantage of small chunks of time to develop ideas, often laying projects aside and picking them up again much later. School breaks give her longer periods to focus on making art.

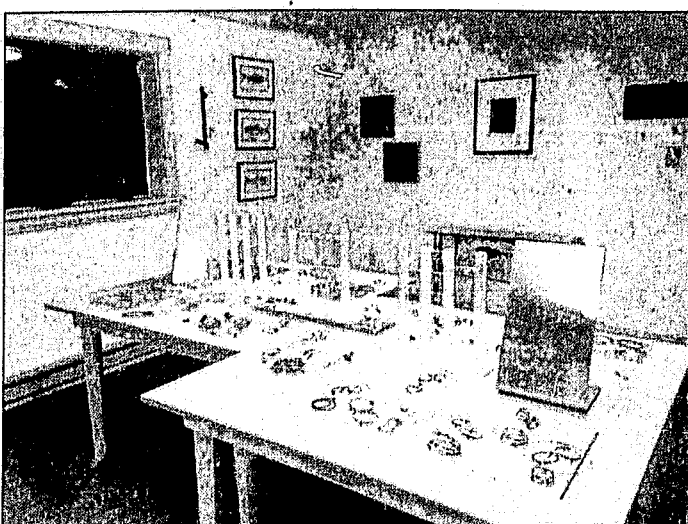
"At some point I manage to come back around to that unfinished work. I find that other things I have since started inform me and lead me to the solutions for those unfinished projects."

Head, who founded Gould Academy's blacksmithing program, will show and sell her ironwork—console tables, candleholders, belt buckles, and sculpture. She will also display mixed media collages, paintings, and other two-dimensional work.



Donna D'Aquino and Lauren Head will open Art@57 MAINE this weekend, providing a space for the community to browse, buy, create, and experience unique art.

A. Wight Chapman



Jewelry and art by local artists Donna D'Aquino and Lauren Head is on display at their new shop and gallery, Art@57 MAINE.

Submitted photo

Instilling the "Joy of process"

D'Aquino and Head's long-term vision for Art@57 MAINE includes a world-class art gallery in the front of the building and expanded classroom space in a large second-floor room.

For now, large tables in the present gallery/studio provide space for the hands-on workshops they plan to begin offering right away.

"We're starting as small as we can, and doing as much ourselves as we can. We don't want to make it too big too fast," said D'Aquino, adding, "The response we have been getting from the community has been overwhelming."

The shop will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on most days. The artists will offer three-hour workshops on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, as well as some afternoons.

Priced at \$50, each workshop can be taken separately and will result in a finished piece. There will also be an option to purchase packages of five or six classes at a discount.

"You're going to come in, and you're going to leave here with something," D'Aquino said. "We hope to instill the joy of process in others."

The first offerings will be in basic jewelry-making, using metals and beads. Future workshops, including

classes geared to younger students, will be planned in response to input from the community.

"We want to focus on the hands, on the actual act of making art," said D'Aquino.

She believes the arts and humanities are an essential part of education, and worries about the loss of art programs in public schools.

"They are such an important part of our lives," she said. "Art doesn't just teach us to put things together—it teaches us so much more."

Head and D'Aquino believe that when people work together to create art in a classroom setting, they are also interacting with others and building a community.

"This will be a place people can stop in and visit, and make art," said Head.

Although she was surprised by how quickly things have come together since she and D'Aquino met just six months ago, she is excited to see what the future holds.

"Sometimes you just start somewhere, like that first line on a piece of white paper, and go from there and see what wonderful thing it can turn into."

For more information about the artists, the gallery, and workshops, call the shop at 824-0928 or Donna D'Aquino at 419-360-0095, or e-mail daquino15@yahoo.com. You can also find 57 MAINE Arts on Facebook.

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The Way I See It

BY SHARON BOUGHARD

I'm making my list and checking it twice and getting more depressed by the minute!

When my grandsons were little back in those pre-retirement days I could buy five great toys for the price of one video game that's on one of the boys' wish list.

A smart person who is now on a fixed income would have planned throughout the year, buying gifts frequently, well knowing that Christmas comes the same time every year. No one has ever accused me of being smart.

However, I have decided to smarten up to accommodate my sorry budget and the rapidly approaching holiday. It doesn't matter that in years past that I always overdid it in the gift department. That was then and this is now, and now is the time to think about a good old fashioned Christmas.

So, I've been thinking back to the Christmases of my childhood when my parents certainly could not have been considered well off. In fact, there were years when the wolf was at the door and yet every Christmas was truly special.

Homemade gifts were the norm under our Christmas tree. My mother did the best she could and other relatives made some very nice things. I even took some

old 78 rpm records and put them on coffee cans (they were not plastic back then) and put them in the oven. I would let them just start to melt down around the side of the coffee can then take them out and put them in cold water. The sides of the records would be wavy and make perfect candy dishes or fruit bowls. I even deco-

I even took some old 78 rpm records and put them on coffee cans in the oven.

rated them with paint and glitter.

My mother and aunts thought they were beautiful. My brothers, on the other hand, really didn't appreciate my artistic talent, but what would one expect from boys!

My aunt knitted the most beautiful sweaters and mittens and they were super presents, but out of the questions for me to repeat that tradition. I can knit and purl from here to Lewiston, but I'm not very good at turning corners. So, I won't be making any knit gifts for Christmas.

I did do a cross stitch table cloth once and it actually came out looking pretty good if you didn't look at all the knots on the underside. I know my daughter would love that for her dining room table, but considering that it took me six months to complete the one I made I think it's a bit too late to consider for this year.

One thing I can do is bake with the best of them. That's the ticket ... banana bread, orange cranberry bread, truffles, mini chocolate covered cheese cakes, cookies ... the list is endless. I will stay away from making any fudge because sometime my fudge has to be eaten with a spoon and I don't think that will wrap very well.

I guess there will be a lot of home baked goodies under my tree this year. That will help my ailing budget, but to make sure everything will be fresh I guess I'll be spending the two days before Christmas in my kitchen. Oh Lord, give me strength!

Next year I'm finally going to be smart and buy a gift every couple of weeks and by this time next year I should be all set without breaking the bank. And, the way I see it, if I should fail at that I can always hunt up some old 78 rpm records and make a whole bunch of candy dishes.

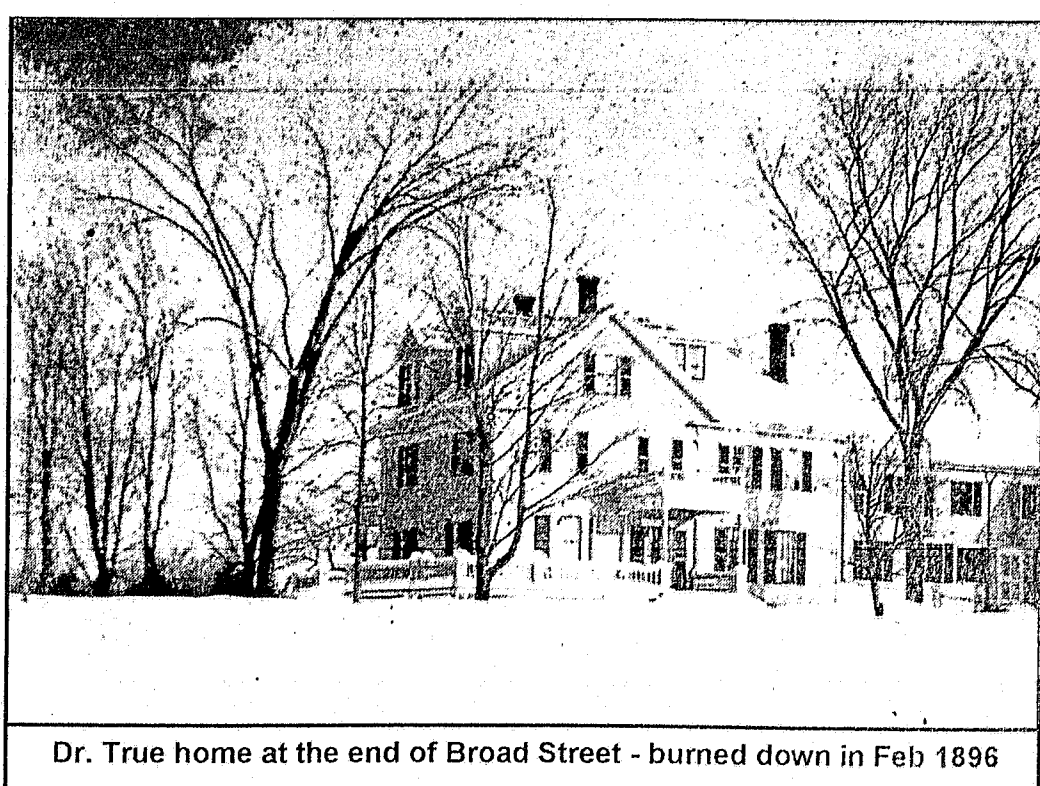
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The "Nutcracker" was performed by the Robinson Ballet Saturday at Telstar. D. Bennett



Dr. True home at the end of Broad Street - burned down in Feb 1896

Dr. Nathaniel True's home, which stood near today's Gehring house. Bethel Historical Society

Bethel

By Donald G. Bennett



A Thursday special selectmen's meeting had two items of interest: A tour of the Ethel Bisee School building and introduction of Project Canopy. Christi Mitchell who is a Historical Preservationist in Augusta for the National Register of Historic Places program in Maine came to Bethel to survey the old school. Generally she found that the building would fit the criteria for being placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ms. Mitchell recommended having an engineer examine the building as a follow up step. She also noted that such buildings also held the possibility for being converted to elderly or low income housing.

A paper was circulated at the Thursday meeting which explained that Project Canopy would be a tree inventory

and follow-up forestry program. Bethel has no current tree inventory or active community forestry program, so this project will supposedly create momentum towards getting the public involved in caring for its trees. It will strengthen partnerships between the town committee and local residents, volunteer individuals, and organizations - helping people appreciate and respect the public benefits of trees. Finally, it will fill a critical gap in the forestry planning activities of the town.

This project still seems to miss addressing the barren/neglected look people driving into Bethel see as they come to the large vacant lots along the Parkway. An old family friend of ours who vacationed in Bethel summers in the '50's and '60's was appalled at what he saw years later when his grandson drove him to Bethel in the '70's just to see the town for old times' sake.

In 1964 Dutch Elm Disease concern mounted: Beth-

el Town Manager Michael Houlihan wrote one week, "There has been a lot of talk this past week on the topic of Dutch Elm diseased trees. The disease is related to the aesthetic value of the town. The elm shade trees that line the Common are a very real asset to the town and the elms along Broad Street are also very nice but the time that we can enjoy them is limited if a lot of preventive work is not done to stop the elm disease. The disease has started on a number of trees and they will need to be pruned to remove the dead limbs... The disease is not new in the area but is spreading at a much faster rate than in the past. Some people are very concerned and I am sure you will see a community effort to save as many of the elm trees as possible."

Two years later in 1966: The Dutch Elm program was being continued but only about half of the diseased trees had been removed. The town was raising a lot of money for trees but the trees of Bethel are a great asset to the town. The diseased ones will have to come down sooner or later and the sooner they come down, the less likely the healthy trees will become infected. Some pruning and planting has been done but this phase of the program should be greatly expanded. The Tree Committee, headed by Sumner Burgess, has done a lot of work on the tree program and their advice should be followed in the future. In the end all Dutch Elms were diseased and taken down.

As far as I know 1968 saw the last live elm in Bethel; it stood in a hedge row that marked the boundary between our field in Mayville and the Thurston's property. A new house is going up some distance below the Middle Intervale Road and directly across from our "Androscoegin beach" where our dog Hays usually runs down a steep path for a drink. A sign at the entrance drive to the project indicates that it is a Maine Passive House. Its location is certainly a perfect one for collecting solar energy. Will go ask Bethel's CEO as to who is the owner.

Saturday afternoon the Robinson Ballet organization from Bangor presented a super duper incredibly well performed production of The Nutcracker. I must admit that I had planned to find a seat in the rear of the auditorium at Telstar so I could slip out if the show did not

really get my attention. But I stayed for the whole performance and was thrilled to be able to watch such a good show. One of the side attractions happened during the intermission. Some of the little girls in the audience got carried away with the ballet performance and were trying out their imitations of what they had been seeing.

Back to the discussion of old buildings. I would call this one an old house new house story of 120 years ago. In February 1896 the famous Dr. Nathaniel True house (which stood near the site of today's beginning to look abandoned Gehring house) was home for the Gehrings and surviving True family members lived until it burned down in February 1896. The Gehrings were in Portland at the time. During the rest of 1896 the "new" Gehring house was designed and built. While being built, the whole extended family lived at the Bethel Inn's forerunner, the Bethel House. Why such a big house? Look at the list of occupants at the 1900 census. Dr. and Mrs. Gehring; George Farnsworth, 19, stepson; Catherine Gehring, 50, sister-in-law; Alma Gehring, 20, niece; Victor Gehring, 14, nephew; Susannah W. True, 72, mother-in-law; Elsie Morgan, 26, servant; Christina Carlson, 53, servant; Anna Carlson, 19, servant; and Gothard Carlson, 22, servant. With this size family, one can see why many bedrooms were necessary. But, wow only 4 servants for a family this size. Number of men employed in the rebuild was not noted in the press.

School Days - School Eras

Bethel has had three eras of school organization. 1. School Districts (1796-1887); 2. Town Schools (1887-1968) which included various unions with Newry, Upton, and even West Paris and 3. School Administrative District 44 since 1968.

Nathaniel Brown had the honor of being first Bethel Superintendent of Schools; he served from 1891 through 1894. The 1894 brick school on High Street was the most noticeable symbol of "graduating" from the District system. If you are at all interested in school administration you might be interested in Bethel's school history.

When Bethel was first incorporated as a town, the early town meetings established a school committee and at subsequent meetings voted to establish school districts.

The 1803 meeting agreed on six districts and as the population grew, more districts were added according to where the town's new "hamlets" were located. By the 1840s town meeting there were 23 districts each with its own school house and usually having one to three teachers handling the three terms of fall, winter and spring.

Then in 1887 the town meeting voted to create a town system doing away with the district organization which had been pretty much managed by each district's agent but loosely overseen by a town school committee.

In 1888 five districts were combined into two. In 1889 there were 637 students in Bethel schools. In 1890 voters defeated a move to revert back to a district system.

During 1890 Dr. Gehring and Horatio Upton (a Chapman family member) made up the investigating school committee and presented a scathing report on the town schools at the 1891 town meeting.

Dr. J.A. Twaddle made a motion from the floor to establish a Supervisor of Schools which was voted in. Dr. Twaddle followed up with the nomination of Nathaniel F. Brown for the new position which was accepted by voter ballot. So basically a business man became the first superintendent. Six years later in 1897, Dr. Twaddle was elected as the superintendent.

Nathaniel Brown served as supervisor for four years. During that time the town built the brick grammar school and merged the two village school districts into the new school. In 1893 Brown purchased the Main Street hardware and tin shop business that today is Brooks Bros. He died in 1917.

TOWN OF NEWRY PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Title 24 MRSA 252, a notice is hereby given that a Public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 15th 5:10pm at the Newry Town Office to consider a new liquor license for Deborah Doyle d/b/a Here and Away Pub located at 23 Skway Road. Public comment will be heard at that time. Written comment may be sent to the Newry Town Office prior to the hearing date.

Kelly Scott
Deputy Town Clerk

For more see <http://www.thebetheljournal.com/info/nathanielbrown.htm>.

Bethel

By Nancy Brown



Girl Scout Daisy Troop 2109, which includes kindergarten and first grade students at Crescent

Park School, is helping the community this month by collecting pet food and supplies to donate to Responsible Pet Care of Oxford. The shelter cares for, and finds homes for, homeless cats and dogs. The students want to provide a warm holiday season for the animals who haven't found a permanent home yet. The troop has placed collection boxes at Crescent Park School and in the lobby of Northeast Bank on upper Main Street. There is a list of needed items attached to the collection boxes. The list includes a wide variety of items needed by the shelter, such as Purina dry cat food, Friskies canned pate, Purina dry dog food, bleach, and Ice Melt (pet safe only) for sidewalks where the dogs are walked. You can see the complete list at CPS or at the bank. Please donate something before Dec. 18. That's the day the boxes will be picked up for the shelter.

The Gem, Bethel's new community theater, is in the middle of an intensive three-week Kickstarter fundraising campaign to upgrade the theater to a state of the art digital projection system. This is necessary so the the-

RABIES CLINIC

There will be a rabies clinic on Saturday, December 19, 2015, at the Bethel Fire Station from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The fee for the rabies shot is \$15.00.

PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN CASH ONLY!

A staff member from the Bethel Town Office will be available to license dogs for Bethel, Albany and Mason residents.

Licensing fees are \$11.00 per dog or \$6.00 per spayed or neutered dog.

OCSD Patrol Log

Tuesday, Dec. 1

At 7:49 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald received a late report of an accident at Route 2/Bog Road in Gilead.

At 4:55 p.m. Deputy Matt McDonnell responded to the North/Old Iron roads in Bethel for a single vehicle property damage accident. The vehicle went off the road and struck a tree due to icy road conditions.

Thursday, Dec. 3

At 9:40 a.m. Deputy Andy Whitney received information that a parent in the Bethel area was operating a motor vehicle with young children without car seats. The vehicle information was collected and local deputies were notified of the offense.

At 12:14 p.m. Sgt. Tim Holland responded to a report of a female driver operating on Mayville Road in Bethel on expired temporary plates. The complainant was unhappy because the subject had not yet been caught.

At 5:18 p.m. Deputy Steve Witham and Cpl. George Cayer responded to Main Street in Hanover for a report of a car-moose accident. There were no injuries.

At 3:46 p.m. Deputy Steve Witham and Sgt. Tim Holland responded to Telstar High School for an issue of a possible bomb threat. The issue was handled appropriately by school officials.

Saturday, Dec. 5

At 8:55 a.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald did a traffic stop on Mayville Road in Bethel that resulted in an expired license over 90 days.

At 9:55 a.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald received a report of an intoxicated driver on Walkers Mills Road in Bethel. He spoke with the driver and determined he was not intoxicated.

At 2:09 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald responded to the school building on Philbrook Street in Bethel for a trespassing issue involving high school students. The issue was addressed and the students were asked to move along.

At 3:53 p.m. Deputy Dere MacDonald did a traffic stop on Mayville Road in Bethel that resulted in an operating after suspension arrest.

Sunday, Dec. 6

At 3:13 a.m. Deputy Josh Aylward responded to a Bethel residence for a report of a sex crime that had just occurred. After an investigation Zachary Howard, 37, of Kansas City, Mo., was arrested for unlawful sexual contact.

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ater can show first-run movies. The goal was to pre-sell 2,000 tickets at \$10 each. Sunday River Ski Resort generously offered to match the first \$20,000 raised. The cost to convert the large theater is \$40,000. For an additional \$35,500, the second theater can be converted. As of Sunday night (with 14 days to go), the Kickstarter campaign had raised \$24,710, more than enough to convert the large theater. The campaign continues and will hopefully raise enough money to convert both theaters. Tickets can be bought at the Gem's website at www.thegemtheater.com.

The Town of Bethel has placed barrels of sand throughout the village. Locations include (but are not limited to) the corner of Main and Vernon streets, in front of the Methodist Church on Main Street, near Cho Sun on Main Street, in front of the Bethel House on Main Street, and next to the Bethel Library on Broad Street. Sand is also available for Bethel residents at the "sand shed" on Davis Road near the Bethel Airport.

My favorite part of the holiday season has always been the lights. When we were children my mother and father took my sisters and me to Rumford each year to see the Christmas lights (and to do some shopping at W.T. Grants and Newberry's.) I remember thousands of blazing lights on the Shopper's Island and a huge Christmas tree at the end of Congress Street. That memory pales to what Bethel offers this year. You have to take a tour of Bethel after dark and see the decorations and the lights; pay particular attention to Broad Street and Main Street.

As some of you know, I work in Norway. This time of year I often grumble about the drive home; I don't like to drive in bad weather; I don't like to drive in the dark because of the animals on the road. But for this one month, when all the lights are strung on the trees and houses and storefronts, it is a joy to drive up Route 26. South Paris has lit up Moore Park with lights on every tree and the gazebo. They even hung lighted "kissing balls" from the light poles. Bryant Pond has what I consider the most beautiful Christmas tree in Maine, with hundreds of multicolored lights and a giant star on the top. (I actually counted down the days till they lit the tree this year.) And Maine Line Products in Locke's Mills is just pure fun to look at. If you love holiday lights, pick a nice evening and drive that route.

A reminder that Bethel Library's Story Time for children is Thursday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. at the library, 5 Broad Street in Bethel.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brown-nancy1950@gmail.com.



SANTA SUNDAY 2015-Sunday River Resort held its 16th Annual Santa Sunday Dec. 6. In the name of charity, 150 skiing and snowboarding Santas rode the South Ridge Express to join together in a group run on the Broadway trail, raising \$3,014 for the Sunday River Community Fund (SRCF). To participate in Santa Sunday, guests are required to pre-register the week prior to the event, and are asked to donate a minimum of \$15 to the SRCF, a donor-advised fund housed at the Maine Community Foundation, upon check-in. The SRCF assists local nonprofit organizations to improve the quality of life in Sunday River's surrounding community, such as the Bryant Pond Learning Center, the Androscoggin River Watershed Council, and the Bethel Library Association. Once a Santa has successfully registered and made his/her donation, that Santa must wear a Santa suit, complete with hat, beard, coat, belt, and pants. In addition to being able to give back, participants received a free lift ticket to use for the morning, as well as another lift ticket to use any time before Dec. 18.

Sunday River

nancy1950@gmail.com.

East Bethel

By Wally Ritz



There are times, when I question myself about why I do this? Well, thank you to all who stay in the background and then are there when I feel like giving up.

Had a call from a person in Massachusetts. Thus, if this is on the up and up, I would appreciate a call from Mark Densmore and yes, we would love to see the pictures and remember.

Now also a bit late, yet just received today:

"Word has been received recently of the death of Alta Brooks Sturgis, a beloved teacher at the East Bethel School in the 1930s and early '40s. She had a long and healthy life, but after a slow decline this past year, she passed on Oct. 31, 2015, at age 102. During WWII she met her husband, Russell Sturgis, and they moved to Portland, Ore."

Alta returned to Maine after Russ died, and lived in South Portland for many years. For the past few years she has lived at the Barron Center on Brighton Avenue in Portland.

Alta requested no services be held for her. Her ashes will be placed next to her husband, at Sunset Memorial Park in Portland, Ore. East Bethel sends love, prayers and sympathy to the family.

Now on to the trivia answer: At the Old Meeting House old iron boot scrapers are affixed to the wall to either side of the south-

ern steps.

Call me at 507-1008 or e-mail heinrichcracker@gmail.com.

I will be here for you to write the news for as long as you want me to. Have a great week.

West Bethel

By Karen Paul



I live in sight of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad's milepost 74 (the former Allen's Station) in West Bethel. The crossing has been recently upgraded with new rails, ties, and crushed rock bed and tarred at its junction with Ferry and Barker Roads. Allen's is located halfway between the southern terminal at milepost 0 in Portland and its last US milepost 149.5 at Island Pond, Vt. After this the train moves into Canada to Sainte-Rosalie, Quebec, ending 260 miles of contiguous track (wiki/St. Lawrence and Atlantic Railroad.)

Christmas lights are appearing in windows, on barns, trees, and window boxes, and along the streets of town making the season a bit brighter for all. I enjoy and appreciate the efforts of a few to light up the dark days of winter. There are only 12 days left before the winter solstice begins. The shortest day and longest night of the year happens around Dec. 22. When the days begin to lengthen a new solar year begins, and as mom always said, "As the days get longer, the cold gets stronger." I plan to celebrate by pledging to do some form of good works this new so-

lar year.

As I write today, Dec. 7, I am thinking about the US Sailors and Marines who were killed 74 years ago on the USS Arizona in Pearl Harbor. In February 1984 I visited the memorial which was built over the Arizona and looked into the dark oil slicked Pacific Ocean. Tears welled up as I imagined the thousand plus military personnel who are still on the ship and feel grateful for their service.

Please send news items to paulkmarie@gmail.com or 836-2266.

Andover

By Jane C. Rich



Saturday was craft fair day in Rumford and Bethel as well as Andover where the First Congregational Church and Fire Station attracted people looking for the perfect gift for a special person or Christmas goodies to purchase and store in the freezer for the big day. Santa visited children at the Fire Station, a local event enjoyed by the adult watchers as well as the children.

Test borings will be done by the DOT this week, Dec. 8-11 which will necessitate the closing of the Brickett bridge between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. An alternate route for those going south and north into the area of town referred locally to as Number 4 will be the Cross Road.

At the meeting of the Andover School Board which took place on Wednesday, Dec. 9, reports were heard from the Superintendent, Finance, Facilities and Transportation, Food Service, Graphic Arts, Region 9 Committees. The meetings are held at 5 p.m. at the school and are open to the public. The report of Karen Thurston, Principal will consider such things as field trips and special guests, curriculum night, craft fair, fundraising, report cards and long-term substitute while she is on maternity leave. The last item in her report is the School Centennial which will be 2016. The Principal is hoping to get further information from the Historical Society regarding the building and history of the school. So if you have pictures or stories about the history of the school, please let them be known to school staff. This

following.

Judith Grover Tent 17 DUVCW will meet on Monday, Dec. 14 at the home of Alice Hoyt. After the meeting, a gift exchange will be held, cards also, and a tasting party.

The Woodstock Historical Society will meet on Saturday, Dec. 12.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Kenneth Cunningham.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service, Bloom for girls 13 to 18 and Foundations for guys 15 and up. Saturday, Dec. 12 is a special edition of Ladies' Coffee Cup Devotions at 9 a.m. This is open to all ladies. There will be a gift swap. Please bring a wrapped gift for under \$10. Sunday, Dec. 13 will be the Christmas program at 6 p.m. Each of the children's Sunday School classes will be represented in this program. Thursday, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. will be the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. There will be no midweek service that week.

Ken and I spent a very nice Thanksgiving with our son Jim and Charlene Hoyt and family.

Sympathy to the family of JoAnne Walters.

Gilead

By Lin Chapman



When I started to write this on Sunday morning, the sun was shining brightly through the front windows and into the living room. Even though it was only about 35 degrees, we opened the front door and the warmth from the sunshine just poured in through the storm door. It was great. Sunshine and no snow.

My brother, Steve McLain, is beginning to get some winter birds showing up at his feeder. He said he filled it up and was hoping the squirrels would leave it alone.

We have had more and more birds at the feeder recently. Mr. and Mrs. Cardinal like to spend a lot of time out behind the house under cover in the bamboo. We put out seeds so they find plenty of eat. The other day there was a Red-Winged Blackbird out there with them. There are also plenty of chickadees, juncos and blue jays. I should also mention those eight pesky gray squirrels that were out there trying to eat up the seeds before the birds got to them!

Now that the leaves have gone off all the trees and bushes, I can see Mary Tyler's place on Bridge Street. She told me that she had put her Santa in her window. He lights up so I looked out the other night and sure enough, I could make out the colored lights.

Hugh and I had some unexpected visitors this afternoon. Mert and Jan Wilson from New Castle, Pa. were in the area and stopped by to visit. Mert is a relative of Hugh's and he has other relatives and acquaintances in the Gorham and Shelburne, N.H. area.

Gilead Historical Society The fall newsletter is late, but there just does not seem to be time to get everything done these days. The feature story took a little bit of research so that held up production a little longer. It should be out shortly.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com.



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Locke's Mills

By Amy Wight Chapman



The Greenwood Historical Society's new book, *The Early History of Greenwood*, is now available at the Town Office as well as online at Lulu.com. If you'd like to preview it before you buy, the Local Hub has a copy that you can peruse while you enjoy one of their great breakfasts or lunches.

We attended the Shaker Christmas Fair at Sabbathday Lake Village on Saturday. My main mission (besides enjoying the holiday spirit, camaraderie, and a serving of Brother Arnold's warm apple crisp) was to get a few skeins of Shaker wool yarn for some hats I'm knitting. Besides yarn, we ended up coming home with some culinary herbs, a jar of our favorite relish ("Shaker Mustard Pickle"), a few stocking stuffers, and even the proverbial kitchen sink—a two-bay stainless steel sink and faucet that had been donated to the "white elephant sale." The sale raises money for local food pantries, and we'll be able to use the sink in the apartment we plan to put in the second floor of our barn.

After that event, Will and I went up to the Bethel Historical Society's Christmas at the Mason House, where we enjoyed hot mulled cider and cookies, seasonal harp music, and crackling hearths in several rooms of the Moses Mason House.

While there, I ran into Lida Iles. She had read my columns about Brussels sprouts and kale, and she shared with me how to massage kale with a pinch of salt to make it more tender and palatable to use raw in a salad. The next day, I got an e-mail from Doreen Johnson with a kale salad recipe that actually sounds delicious. It has red onion, shredded carrot, dried cranberries, and edamame, and Doreen says almost everyone in her family, down to her youngest grandson, loves it. I will definitely give it a try.

The beautiful, unseasonably warm weather this weekend made me realize that I would be kicking myself if I put off my outdoor holiday decorating and ended up on a ladder in a snowstorm trying to hang the lights.

We have a nicely shaped spruce tree in our front yard that was planted when the corner of the East Bethel Road was rebuilt. I've lost track of when that was—maybe 15 years ago?—but over the years it has grown to about 25 feet. When it was only a few feet tall, I could decorate it easily, but as it has grown, hanging lights on it has become a bit of an ordeal, and we hadn't done it for a few years.

I had acquired 20 strings of LED lights at the white elephant sale at last year's Shaker Christmas Fair. When I told Tony I was going to take the 20-foot ladder out and try to hang them on the outside tree, he decided he'd better stop what he was doing and lend a hand. I was happy to keep my feet on the ground while he did the climbing. I hung more lights on the kids' old log cabin playhouse. I was able to do that from a step-stool, which is much more my speed.

Don't forget the Christmas Cantata at the Locke Mills Union Church is this Sun-



GOULD'S ANNUAL YULEFEST—Take in the sounds of the holidays during Gould Academy's annual Yulefest and watch as the school's band, chorus group, and student vocalists set the stage for a magical evening performance in Bingham Auditorium Friday, Dec. 18 from 4 to 5 p.m. For more information, go to gouldacademy.org.

day, Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. On a less cheerful note, the speaker at last week's Oxford County Municipal Officers meeting was Norway Police Chief Rob Federico, who discussed the problem of heroin and other hard drugs in western Maine. He said that as prescription pain killers have become more expensive and less readily available, many who have become addicted have replaced pills with heroin, which is now cheaper and easier to procure.

Most heroin in the U.S. is produced in Mexico or Colombia. In the eastern U.S., it is imported directly to New York, and distributed to other states from there. It brings a relatively high price in Maine, due to the less saturated market, providing an incentive for dealers here to import it.

It's a frightening problem, both because of the resulting increase in break-ins and other crimes in our area, and because of the many overdoses. State Trooper Jason Wing will be speaking to the Greenwood selectmen about the same issue at our meeting next Tuesday, Dec. 15 at 5 p.m. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend to learn what we can do to combat drug abuse in our community.

E-mail your news to amy.w.chapman@gmail.com, leave a message at 875-5511, or contact me on Facebook.

Mason

By Richard Grover



Remember all the trouble I had replacing links in the roller chain of my skidding winch a couple weeks ago? I ended up having to order a new sprocket for the winch, which R.S. Osgood ordered from the manufacturer. It came in last Wednesday, but Osgood's maintenance crew was busy with other stuff. I took the winch via trailer to Osgood on Friday and left it. As of today, Sunday, they have not called to say the repair is done. Looks like a busy week coming up.

While I am unable to be logging, I've been catching up on other small tasks. Sawed up some firewood trees that Wilson's road crew cut beside the road last summer and hauled it home in the small trailer on Saturday morning. Washed the truck later Saturday, the car today, Sunday. Raked the last of the leaves again today. Now trying to finish writing my Christmas cards. Will be hoping to hear from Osgood's tomorrow that my

winch is ready tomorrow or Tuesday. With no winch, I can still cut a few fir logs and leave them on the ground until I get enough for a truckload. There's always something to do "down on the farm!" And, Harper is coming tomorrow too!

Newry

By Doug Webster



At the Dec. 1 Select Board meeting, the Board agreed to take on a utility fire truck from Chelsea, Maine. Newry fire department chief, Bruce Pierce, is arranging delivery. George Kelly, owner of a small subdivision at the end of Mountain View Road, is seeking information pertaining to having the town take over his road. The Board continues to look into the possibility of expanding the town's Veterans' Memorial. The Board would like to see a memorial that includes all veterans that served from Newry.

Someone inquired at the town office regarding buying the old town signs that got replaced this summer. That will make quite a souvenir in your game room. Thanks to Alan Fleet for putting up the new signs. The Board picked the dates for this year's Town Meeting. Voting for elected officers will be on Monday, March 7, and the town meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Nomination papers for Select Board and School Board come out on Monday, Dec. 14, and the deadline for returning the papers is Jan. 25. Gary Wight is up for reelection for Select Board and Whitney Gray is up for School Board.

The white smoke has risen from the town office. We have a new town administrator. Amy Bernard has been chosen by the Select Board. She is currently town manager of Paris.

The Newry school withdrawal committee is at a standstill with the school withdrawal committee. The School Committee continues to stall and do nothing to further along negotiations. Newry's education consultant, Mark Eastman, said that he has never seen this lack of negotiation and it is unprecedented in its nature. With lack of negotiations, the School Board continues to waste taxpayer money by prolonging the with-

drawal process. They seem to want to go down kicking and screaming before they will let Newry's money go. I think everyone in the community would like to see fair and productive negotiations move forward in a timely fashion.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to our North Newry residents.

South Woodstock

By Lolalee Dillingham



Monday, Dec. 7, 10 a.m. What beautiful weather we are all enjoying this time of the year. I know I am truly enjoying the warm sunny days.

Condolences are going out to the family of JoAnne Walters III. Love and prayers to each family member.

Paula and I are off to entertain the residents at Rumford today. We have put together a Christmas program for them.

Yogi spent the day helping Craig work on his pulp truck yesterday. It needed new loading lights and a few other things done.

Days are getting closer and closer for the one big day all the kids look forward to. My list is pretty much done and now to get them all tagged and ready for delivery. I do have some last minute baking to do, but I can get all that done on Dec. 21.

Happy Birthday to all that may be celebrating this week. And Get well wishes to those who are not feeling up to par.

Earl Hart is a patient at the Ledgeview Living Center.

I am going to apologize for the short column this week, but I have to get my equipment loaded into the truck and time is getting by me.

So, that's all from the valley this week. Wishing y'all great weekend. And stay well.

Upton

By Joe Bernier



Please don't forget, the Upton annual Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m. at the Ladies Aid Building. The party is loads of fun for kids of all ages.

The Letter B Notch Rider trail signs survived the fall season quite well. Very few were stolen or destroyed.

Members of the State Line Snowmobile club have been out (on ATVs,) setting up their signs and working on trails.

On a hilltop, in Dummer, N.H., there is a tower with a light on it. The hill and tower appear to be a long ways from any other structure. It can be seen from Route 16, intermittently, from Milan to Pontook Dam. Some people I work with live in the area. They told me that the tower is a government facility and it is fenced in and guarded. Does someone out there know anything about it?

Please call 533-2010 or e-mail backstjoe@gmail.com with your news.

Waterford

By Rockie Graham



These days are just glorious. We have surely have been spoiled. I hope we won't pay for it later. In any case, it gives us all more time to take care of those last minute tighten up for winter activities. Plow trucks, plastic on windows, etc. Dave put the storm door on two days ago. I enjoyed having the air coming in

through the screen door, but it was getting a bit chilly.

This Saturday, Dec. 12, Fare Share is holding their holiday dinner/fundraiser. It begins at 4-ish. I could use a ride if anyone is going that way. I can get there, but not back as it will be dark as soon as I get there. Hate not being able to see in the dark. Actually I do need a ride there. The dinner is Nomad this year. 743-9044 for details.

On Thursday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. there will be a Christmas sing a long at the Whitman Memorial Library in Bryant Pond. Jim Burke will be on keyboard and the Oxford Hills Ukulele group will play too. It is open to the public, no charge and there will be holiday refreshments served.

On Saturday, Dec. 12 at 3 p.m. at the Second Congo Church in Norway, there will be a Christmastide Choir Concert. It will include dances by the children's theatre. The concert is free but tickets are required. They are available at Books 'n' Things in Norway.

I have been attending a Fit for Life class to get fit and it helps some. If I could get off the antibiotics which are creating havoc in my body, I would be just fine. Looking towards doing some weight lifting if I can find a good class nearby. I used to do that in Bethel all the time. I need more assistance with it than I used to. Not as self-motivated as I was, and without Tasha dog to walk twice a day I have gotten out of shape.

Enough of my woes, hope all are well as their way to finishing Christmas shopping. I have just begun. With limited income I might need to make a few presents. But it is more the thought that counts. I used to make candy (needhams) with friend Lynn Mason. Maybe I'll make gluten free cookies.

That is all for now. Have to see if my computer will send this. Jodie was fixing it but said it needed a part. Wish me luck. Anyone with things to share please call 743-0583.

Christmas For Children

The Bethel Rotary Club has raised \$9,420 toward their goal of \$16,000

To be used to purchase toys for needy boys & girls in our community.

Contributions may be mailed to:
Bethel Rotary Club - Christmas for Children
 PO Box 471 • Bethel, ME 04217
 Deadline to apply is December 18. All applications will be kept confidential.

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Tru-Mark® Slingshots were \$10.75	\$8.60
Lee® Anniversary Reloading Set was \$174.95	\$134.95
Ruger® SR-1911 .45 Pistol was \$800.00	\$640.00
Daisy® Model 10 BB Gun was \$40.95	\$32.75
Buck® Woodsman Knife was \$58.55	\$46.85
Crossman® 1322 Pellet Pistol was \$79.95	\$63.95

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Age-Friendly Community

We were extremely pleased with the return of over 200 surveys distributed in October. These were sent to Amy Flowers of Analytic Insight in Lewiston. After analyzing the data, she will be in Bethel for a comprehensive presentation on her findings. Her analysis will undoubtedly suggest future projects to improve the livability of the Bethel community. Please join us to hear from, and talk with, Amy: Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016, 4 to 6 p.m. at the West Parish Congre-

gational Church in Bethel.

We learned recently of a wonderful service available to all Mainers. 2-1-1 is an easy-to-remember number that connects people who want to give help or get help with a full range of health and human services in their community. 2-1-1 includes a statewide directory of over 8,000 resources, including agency services and support groups accessible through this website to anyone with Internet capability. 2-1-1 provides emergency operations

during times of natural and other disasters, including accurate and timely information for preparations and longer-term referral for follow-up services if required.

Go to <http://211maine.org> to learn about this service. If you do not have access to Internet or e-mail, dial 2-1-1, and you will be connected to a live Call Specialist who will help you find the services you need. FMI on any of the above, contact Nancy Davis (nancydavis.bethel@gmail.com, 381-1110).

Environmental book discussion and signing at Café DiCocoa in Bethel Dec. 20

Naya Clifford will sign copies of her debut novel, *Into the North Woods*, and discuss issues related to green industry and environmental activism at Café Di Cocoa located at 125 Main Street, Bethel on Sunday, Dec. 20 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Readers of Naya Clifford's *Into the North Woods* will adventure across the crest of the Appalachian Trail, into the lives of a Maine family thrust into the center of an environmental controversy. Against the backdrop of the majestic White Mountains, a college student Richard Atwood and his girlfriend Breeze, meet Striker, an iconic environmental activist. Together they descend into radical fanaticism fed by pseudo-scientific internet sites and their own growing urgency to save the planet. Richard's grandmother Mimi Atwood, owns an Inn on Lake Umbagog near a new proposed highway expansion that helps an industrial wind developer strip a mountain top and plant a new "steel daisy." You will cheer on the Atwood family as they take a stand for their heritage and stand firm against extremist beliefs while helping Richard discover his true self through his family. *Into the North Woods* is written as an allegorical commentary on the rise of religious extremism through internet connections to radical terror groups.

Signed copies of *Into the North Woods* will be available for purchase at Café Di Cocoa on Sunday, Dec. 20, directly from the author. *Into the North Woods* is also for sale at Books-n-Things at 430 Maine Street Norway, and other fine independent Maine bookstores. *Into the North Woods* is also available for \$8.99 in e-format for IBook and Kindle at <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/585348>.

Professionally, Naya works as a teacher and clinical social worker, and is completing a doctoral degree in Disability Studies at the University of Maine. Naya resides in Maine with her husband Robert and their children.

Recipes

Continued from page 4

my favorite use for a microwave!) Start with 5 min. and keep adding minutes until the potatoes soften to touch. Leave them in the microwave until you can touch them. Cut in half and spoon out the innards into a storage container for hash browns tomorrow. On a baking sheet, use a brush (personally I use a painting brush that has never seen paint and runs thru the dishwasher on a regular basis) the bottom with the olive oil mix. Place the potato halves skin side up and brush skins with oil mix. Bake for 15+ minutes or until golden, brown and delicious (GBD). Remove from heat and flip boats. Brush innards with oil and return to oven for 10-15 minutes or GBD. At this point you could sprinkle with some cheddar cheese, bacon crumbles, scallions and serve with sour cream, chopped cilantro/spinach and/or chopped tomatoes or...your favorites. Or...a true playmaker may suggest filling a few with pork pulls for greater team muscle!

Let us vin

Heads of iceberg lettuce-figure 4 servings a head
Dressing: In a recycled glass jar add 1/2 cup mayonnaise, 1/2 cup sour cream, Juice of 1 large lemon, 1/4 cup milk, 1 tsp Dijon mustard, 1 tsp grated onion, salt and pepper to taste, and 1/2 cup crumbled cheese (blue or feta work great). Cover and shake.
Cut the lettuce head in quarter (I usually cut quarters in half again for easy finger food pickup.)
Arrange wedges on serving plate, pour dressing in a bowl and let them dip the wedges. For the double dipping crowd...put a spoon in the dressing bowl.
Next time...Christmas Eve nibbles to warm Santa's elves

Community Events at The Gem

Saturday, Dec. 12

Holiday Movie Marathon! Join us at The Gem for one (or more) classic movies to get you into the spirit of Christmas. Schedule: 10 a.m., *Rudolf the Red-Nose Reindeer* (G); 11 a.m., *The Muppets Christmas Carol* (G); 2 p.m., *12 Dogs of Christmas* (PG); 4 p.m., *A Christmas Story* (PG); 7 p.m., *Elf* (PG). Tickets, \$5. 10 a.m. show is free!

Friday, Dec. 18

The Polar Express Jammies Party - For all the believers (and doubters) we'll have hot cocoa, cookies and a fun holiday movie. Please come in your PJ's!

Come at 6 p.m. for hot cocoa and cookies! Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.

\$5 - Buy Tickets online at www.thegemtheater.com.

Saturday, Dec. 19

Holiday Un-Office Party at The Gem. Food, cash bar, raffles and music! Help us celebrate the end to a (hopefully) successful fundraising campaign to convert the theater to digital. We encourage you to wear your favorite ski or holiday sweater. 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. We are also showing Warren Miller's new ski film, *Chasing Shadows* at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Movie tickets \$10 - www.thegemtheater.com.

Tuesday, Dec. 22

The Polar Express Jammies Party - For all the believers (and doubters) we'll have hot cocoa, cookies and a fun holiday movie. Please come in your PJ's!

Come at 6 p.m. for hot cocoa and cookies! Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.

\$5 - Buy Tickets online at www.thegemtheater.com.

Sports



High School Boys' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 64, Mt. Abram 54; Dec. 7 - Telstar scorers: Tanner Wheeler (19); Blake Rothwell (17); Avry Griffin (11); Jarrett Bean (13); Jeremiah Richardson (4). Three-pointers: Rothwell (2); Griffin.

Middle School Boys' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 26, Buckfield 23; Dec. 2 - The Telstar Middle School Varsity Boys Basketball team opened their 2015-2016 basketball season at Buckfield with an exciting victory! Despite a rocky first half start and being down 5 points at the half, the team rallied in the second half to win. Fin McLaughlin led the team with 12 points, Devin Cole-Mason scored 7 points, and Davin Mason tossed in 5 points. Improved defense in the third quarter by Asa Hall and Mario DeVivo helped the team come back. - Coach O'Connor

Middle School Girls' Varsity Basketball

Telstar 30, Buckfield 14; Dec. 2 - The Telstar Middle School Girls basketball team opened its season with a 30 to 14 win over Buckfield. Aneah Bartlett led all of the scores with 10 points, Luci Rothwell had 8, Ella Kellogg, Madison Buck, and Lydia Bennett had 4 each. - Coach Dave Berry

Mountain Valley Rec Basketball League

The 2015/2016 Mountain Valley Rec Basketball season is underway and there are eight entries in this year's program. Games are again played every Sunday at Mountain Valley High School and/or Middle School from December through February with playoffs and league championship in March. League games start at 10 a.m. and run continuously throughout the day. The finale of the league will be followed by the 17th Annual Mountain Valley Rec Invitational Tournament on April 1, 2 and 3. Four divisions and 32 teams are expected this year.

Last year's and the past few years' champions, Ranor Mechanical, unfortunately will not form a team this year and will be missed. Laid Back Installers, who were runners up the past few years and won the championship before Ranor, will be back as favorites and sponsored by Rodney Canwell and led by Brian Canwell. They had the best record in the regular season last year. M&M Carpentry (Matterhorn last year) has enhanced their team and will be captained again by Spencer Glover. Bethel has added to their team and is captained by Ryan Kimball. Archie's Inc. is back with a few new faces and captained by Brett Archibald. Tommy Guns has reentered the league after a year hiatus, recruited some new players and is captained by Tim Turner. Jay is returning and is led by Levi Armandi. Underdogs (formerly Neptune) are trying to develop a competitive team and are directed by TJ Swan. Finally, The Crew (Auburn/Augusta) is a new group, although some have participated in the annual invitational tournament, and is looking to make their mark. They are being directed by Kurt Varney.

In the first week, Dec. 6, M&M, led by Matt Zetts' 25 points, defeated Tommy Guns, 82-78. Joshua Thomas led the Pubbers with 20 points. Bethel made easy work of The Underdogs, 100-31, with JT Taylor (26 points) and Ryan Savage (21) leading the way. LBI defeated an undermanned Archie's, 105-88. LBI got 28 points from Jon Benjamin, 27 from Brandon Johnson and 19 from Chris Baxter. Archie's had all 5 players in double figures, Brett Archibald (23 points), Glen Dubois (19), Colby Knapp and Steve Lizotte (16) and Justin Archibald (14). Lastly, The Crew easily defeated a light Jay team, 91-67. Jade Dutil was hot with 39 points and 9 threes for The Crew, while big man Ricky White contributed 27. Jay got 24 points from Eric Gemelli and 23 from Kyle Storer.

Telstar High School 2015-1016 sports teams previews

Boys' Basketball

BY KALLE OAKES, SUN MEDIA

Coach: Mike Pelletier (second year)

Conference: MVC Class: C

Last year's record: 6-12

Returning players: Juniors - Jeremiah Richardson (6-5 center), Tanner Wheeler (6-4 forward), Avry Griffin (5-10 guard); Sophomores - Jarrett Bean (6-0 forward).

Key losses: Maverik Griffin, Mike Dougherty, Zac Wheeler.

Promising newcomers: Juniors - Blake Rothwell (6-0 guard), Zach Stone (5-9 guard), Elijah Mason (6-1 forward); Sophomores - Aaron Vermette (6-1 forward).

Girls' Basketball

BY KEVIN MILLS, SUN MEDIA

Conference: MVC Class: C South

Last year's record: 0-18

Returning players: Seniors - Becca Howard (5-5 guard), Hayley Peterson (5-7 guard/forward), Blair Stevens (5-7 forward).

Key losses: Savanna Pelletier (guard)

Promising newcomers: Freshmen - Sadie Richardson (5-9 forward), Brooke Richardson (5-9 forward), Julia Cherkis (5-10 forward/guard), Hanna Evans (5-8 forward), Alivia Chapple (5-4 guard), Crystal Chapman (5-4 forward), Hattie Doyle (5-4 guard).

Nordic Skiing

BY NATHAN FOURNIER, SUN MEDIA

Conference: MVC; Class: C

Last year's result: Boys: Second at MVC and 6th at Class C Championships. Girls: Fourth at Class C Championships.

Returning athletes: Boys: Juniors - Kellen True, Josh Elliot, Elijah Laird; Sophomores - Gaelen Boyle-Wright; Girls: Seniors - Carla Boyle-Wright, Kaitlyn Brown; Sophomores - Marta Ople.

Promising newcomers: Boys: Freshman - Ricco Call; Girls: Freshman - Emily Hanscom.

Season outlook: Telstar is excited that the season is under way and looks forward to getting out on snow soon. Their goal will be for both the girls and boys to do well in the MVC Championships. They also hope to have some skiers qualify at the end of the season for the U16 Championships and the Eastern High School Championships. Each skier will have his/her personal goals, but together they will build a small, but strong team that pushes itself to improve daily.

2015 THS Softball Raffle

The following people were winners in the recent Telstar Softball Team raffle of gift certificates: Pat Howard (\$25); Annie Cushman (\$25); Fred Johnson (\$25);

Jeff Somerville (\$50); Cindy Gammon (\$25); Jimmy Merrill (\$25); Cara Pelletier (\$25); Charlotte Marshall (\$25); Annie Cushman (\$50); John Lunney (\$25); Frank

Delduca (\$25); Arlene Lowell (\$25); Mark Kenney (\$25); Bob Buker (\$25); Wilma Bean (\$25); Margie Finley (\$25); Donna Brooks (\$25). Nancy Cushman donated \$25 back.

The team thanks everyone for their support.

7:30 AM Tuesdays
at The Bethel Inn
on the
Common, Bethel
www.bethelrotary.org

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The Bethel Citizen

Did You Recently Get Married or Engaged?

Submit your wedding and engagement announcements to be published free of charge.

Be sure to include a photo and a brief description of your event. Announcements are run on a space-available basis.

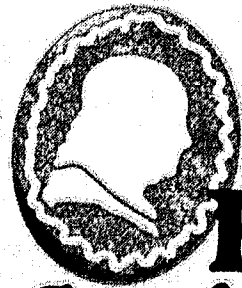


The Bethel Citizen

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Customer Appreciation Day

Please join us at our River Valley Branch Friday, December 11th for treats and plenty of good cheer as we thank you for banking with us.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Northern Vista at Home Senior Care; Free shuttle service to those going to reoccurring chemo or radiation appointments at St. Mary's or Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. To schedule a ride, call Gerry McCann, director, at 207-836-2173.

District Exchange; Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours - No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Bethel Area Food Pantry; serving the residents of Albany, Andover, Bethel, East Bethel, West Bethel, Bryant Pond, Gilead, Greenwood, Hanover, Locke's Mills, Mason Township, Newry, Upton and Woodstock. The Food Pantry is open on the second Monday of each month from noon to 8 p.m. Anyone in need of food should come during those hours, without appointment. The Food pantry is located in the basement of the Nazarene Church, 16 Church Street, Bethel, by the side entrance on Park Street. Donations for the Bethel Food Pantry should be left on the porch at 57 Elm Street. Contact Dave Bean at beand@gouldacademy.org or 824-0369 with any questions.

Dec. 10 and 11

Ledgeview Christmas Sale; 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Friday, Ledgeview Living Center, West Paris. Donations will be graciously accepted. FMI: Rachel Wilday (674-2250).

Thursday, Dec. 10

Story Time at the Bethel Library; 10 a.m., Bethel Library, 5 Broad Street (across from the Common). The theme for the December Story Time for young children is "winter." Books read will include The Lost Mitten and Cross-Country Cat. A parent or caregiver must accompany the child. FMI call the library at 824-2580.

Christmas Sing Along; 2 p.m., Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Jim Burke on the keyboard and the Oxford Hills Ukulele group, back by popular demand, will lead a Christmas Sing Along. The program is open to the public at no charge and Christmas-type refreshments will be served.

Bethel Area Substance Abuse Task Force Meeting; 3 p.m., MSAD 44 Superintendent's office. FMI/RSVP: Patty Duguay (364-7408 or rvhcoduguay@awi.net).

CELEBRATE! The Andy Project; 6 p.m., Sunday River Brewing Company, corner of Route 2 and Sunday River Road, Bethel. Join in the celebration of the new Andy Barlow home. Andy will honor the Hanover Volunteers of the Year and Ben Byam will weigh out as he concludes his weight loss challenge for the cause. Food and drink available for purchase. Limited edition Andy Project souvenirs, raffles and fun! Kate Carroll, Emcee. Open to the public. For more info contact HanoverMcNews@gmail.com or call 603-553-1973.

Dec. 11, 12 and 13

Rotary's Bell Ringing for Christmas for Children; In front of the Bethel Foodliner, Main Street, Bethel. The bell ringing collections support hundreds of children in need during the holiday season. Donations also accepted at PO Box 471, Bethel, Maine 04217.

Friday, Dec. 11

Annual "Let Your Light Shine" Celebration; 6:30 p.m., West Paris Library. FMI: 674-2004.

Alder River Grange Meeting/Potluck; 6 p.m. potluck supper, 7 p.m. meeting, Stan Howe's home on Broad Street, Bethel. This will be the Christmas meeting, so please bring either goods or money for the area food pantry.

CSA Presents The Emperor's New Clothes; 12:45 and 6 p.m., Crescent Park School, Bethel. Approximately 50 local children, grades kindergarten through five will present "The Emperor's New Clothes," a musical rendition of the Hans Christian Anderson classic joined with the spirit of the

American West.

The Jed Wilson Trio; 7:30 p.m., Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center, 18 Bradley Street, Fryeburg. Wilson (piano) will be accompanied by drummer Jacob Forbes and bassist Kinnon Church. "One of the best jazz pianists/composers you'll ever see this close on stage!" Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students. You can pre-order tickets online at www.fryeburgacademy.org/pac or by calling the box office at 207-935-9232.

Saturday, Dec. 12

Holiday Movie Marathon; The Gem Theater, 23 Cross Street, Bethel. 10 a.m., Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer (G); 11 a.m., The Muppets Christmas Carol (G); 2 p.m., 12 Dogs of Christmas (PG); 4 p.m., A Christmas Story (PG); 7 p.m., Elf (PG). Tickets: \$5 (10 a.m. show is free). FMI: www.thegemtheater.com.

Texas Hold'em Tournament; Doors open at 11 a.m., games begin at 12 noon, Jackson Silver Post 68, American Legion, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills. \$50 buy-in, \$5 license, high hand options, pull tabs, 50/50, light meals and beverages. BYOB. FMI: Ray 890-3737 or 875-2375.

Oxford Hills Honey Bee Club Potluck Holiday Party; 1 p.m., Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Linwood Swett will be giving a demonstration on insulating your hives with Styrofoam. Everyone's welcome. FMI: Kevin (farrout@roadrunner.com) or visit mainehoneybees.com.

Christmastide Choir Concert; 3 p.m., Second Congregational Church UCC, 205 Main Street, Norway. This year's concert will also include songs by the Children's Theater Workshop and a performance by professional dancer Debi Irons. The concert is free to the public, by tickets are required. Tickets will be available at Books 'n' Thins on Saturday, Nov. 28. A reception with Christmas goodies and punch will follow the concert.

Woodstock Historical Society Meeting/Potluck; 5 p.m. potluck followed by a 6 p.m. meeting, Woodstock Town Office Complex. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday, Dec. 13

Annual Christmas Cantata; 4 p.m., Locke Mills Union Church. Refreshments following. Donations for music accepted.

Monday, Dec. 14

SAD 44 School Board Meeting; 6:30 p.m., Telstar Library. **West Paris Historical Society Annual December Meeting;** 6:30 p.m., Ken and Sandra Poland's home. Christmas party and dessert. FMI: 674-2507.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

Telstar Middle/High School Winter Concert; 7 p.m., Telstar's Helen C. Berry Auditorium. Featuring performances from the middle and high school bands and choirs. Admission is free, but donations are always welcome.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

Maine Veterans' Home 20 Year Celebration; 2 p.m., Maine Veterans' Home, South Paris. Guest speakers will reminisce about the selection of the land for development of the facility in South Paris, the construction, and the accomplishments over the years. Tours will be available, music will be performed by the OHCHS String Quartet and there will be a slide show on the facility. Refreshments will be served. FMI: www.mainevets.org or 207-743-6300.

Thursday, Dec. 17

Oxford County USDA Local Work Group Meeting; 10 a.m. to noon, Oxford County Extension Office, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District (OCSWCD) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) invite the public to attend a meeting of the Oxford County USDA Local Work Group. The Local Work Group will provide recommendations for the 2017 Environ-

mental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to their local USDA - NRCS.

SeniorsPlus Long-Distance Learning Program; 1 to 2:30 p.m., West Paris Library. A Class on Weather Forecasting. A Long Distance Learning program presented by SeniorsPlus. Free with pre-registration - call 1-800-427-1241.

Friday, Dec. 18

Gould Academy's Annual Yulefest; 4 to 5 p.m., Bingham Auditorium, Church Street. Take in the sounds of the holidays during Gould Academy's annual Yulefest and watch as the school's band, chorus group, and student vocalists set the stage for a magical evening performance. FMI: gouldacademy.org.

The Polar Express Jammies Party; The Gem Theater, 23 Cross Street, Bethel. For all the believers (and doubters) we'll have hot cocoa, cookies and a fun holiday movie. Please come in your PJ's! Come at 6 p.m. for hot cocoa and cookies! Movie starts at 6:30 p.m. \$5. FMI/Tickets: www.thegemtheater.com.

Saturday, Dec. 19

"Ghost Buck: One Man's Family and their Hunting Traditions" Book Launch; 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Bethel Historical Society's Dr. Moses Mason House exhibit hall. Long-standing American wilderness champion Dean Bennett, a native of Locke's Mills in Greenwood, weaves together memoir, natural history, politics, and emotion into a volume chock-full of information about hunting in a changing world and the legends of the elusive Ghost Buck that haunted his family's camp. The event is free, refreshments will be served, and copies of Dean Bennett's book will be available for purchase and signing.

Holiday Un-Office Party; 5:30 to 10:30 p.m., The Gem Theater, 23 Cross Street, Bethel. Food, cash bar, raffles and musical Help to celebrate the end to a (hopefully) successful fundraising campaign to convert the theater to digital. We encourage you to wear your favorite ski or holiday sweater. We are also showing Warren Miller's new ski film, Chasing Shadows at 6 and 8 p.m. \$10 FMI/Tickets: www.thegemtheater.com.

Sunday, Dec. 20

Environmental Book Discussion; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Café DiCocoa, 125 Main Street, Bethel. Naya Clifford will sign copies of her debut novel, Into the North Woods, and discuss issues related to green industry and environmental activism. Signed copies of Into the North Woods will be available for purchase directly from the author.

Finnish-American Heritage Society Meeting; 2 p.m., 8 Maple Street, West Paris. Following a short business meeting, Natalie Parsons will present a very interesting program describing her journey to Antarctica last winter. The public is invited to attend and share the coffee table.

Living Nativity; 5 p.m., Bethel Common. Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. It will be followed by a time of sharing Christmas refreshments at the Moses Mason House. Call 207-824-2289 for more information.

Tuesday, Dec. 22

The Polar Express Jammies Party; The Gem Theater, 23 Cross Street, Bethel. For all the believers (and doubters) we'll have hot cocoa, cookies and a fun holiday movie. Please come in your PJ's! Come at 6 p.m. for hot cocoa and cookies! Movie starts at 6:30 p.m. \$5. FMI/Tickets: www.thegemtheater.com.

Thursday, Dec. 24

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service; 7 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walker's Mills Rd. (across from Telstar parking lot). Call 207-824-2289 for more info.

Thursday, Jan. 14

Age-Friendly Community Gathering; 4 to 6 p.m., West Parish Congregational Church, Church Street, Bethel. Hear from and talk with Amy Flowers of Analytic Insight in Lewiston regarding her analysis of data collected from over 200 Age-Friendly Community surveys.

REGULAR MEETINGS AND EVENTS

ORGANIZATIONS

Andover

Mondays and Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.: Andover Fitness Club, Andover Elementary School gym.

Bethel

First Sunday of month, 7 p.m.: Bethel Snow Twisters at 208 Walkers Mills Rd.

Third Sunday of each month, 9 a.m.: Breakfast open to the public at no charge at Bethel Church of the Nazarene.

Wednesdays

Yoga Classes with Yogamoto. Classes are held at 4:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. (no class Nov. 25) at the United Methodist Church Annex at 75 Main Street. Yogamoto is a donation-based nonprofit yoga practice. You pay what you can - suggested donation is \$5-\$15. Classes are one hour vinyasa flow and suitable to all skill levels. Proceeds are donated to local education. Private classes also available. FMI: www.yogamoto.com (207)200-3815 info@yogamoto.com

Last Wednesday of the month, 4:30 to 6 p.m.: Community Supper at Bethel Alliance Church. No charge. FMI: 207-824-2289.

Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m.: Story Time for Children at Bethel Library (story plus craft) with participating mothers. October thru April. FMI: call 824-2520.

Second Thursday of the month, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; fourth Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Cross Country Quilters of Pine Tree Quilt Guild of Maine meet at the Alliance Church on Route 26 in Bethel. All quilters welcome. FMI: e-mail Pat McCartney at p_quilts@yahoo.com or call 836-3575.

Saturdays

Yoga Classes with Yogamoto. Classes are held at 8am and 9:30am at the United Methodist Church Annex at 75 Main Street. Yogamoto is a donation-based nonprofit yoga practice. You pay what you can - suggested donation is \$5-\$15. Classes are one hour vinyasa flow and suitable to all skill levels. Proceeds are donated to local education. Private classes also available. FMI: www.yogamoto.com (207)200-3815 info@yogamoto.com

Woodstock

Second Saturday of month, 6 p.m.: Woodstock Historical Society meeting at the museum.

West Paris

Tuesdays 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.: West Paris Baptist Church group to foster wellness for anyone searching for faith based support. The group is intended for those facing the challenges of grief, loss, addiction, codependency, and abuse issues. Light refreshments will be provided.

Norway

Third Wednesday of the month: Women's Imaging Center, Stephens Memorial Hospital, Norway, offering professional prosthetic and bra fittings for women on For appointment call 743-5993 Ext. 6851.

Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.: at the Harper Conference Center, Ripley Medical Office Building, 193 Main Street, Norway. Staying on Your Feet, a free one-time course for adults aged 60 and over. Course includes balance screening, blood pressure check, leg-strength measurement, and education on staying fit.

Fridays 9:15 a.m.: Oxford Hills Duplicate Bridge, Norway. For more information, call Les Buzzell at 783-4153 or 754-9153; or e-mail: buzz116@myfairpoint.net.

Hebron

Sundays 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Seasonal Public Skating, Robinson Arena, Hebron. Adults, \$3/Children 12 and under, \$2/ WinterKids Passport holders, free. FMI: 966-2100.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SAFE Voices

24-hour hotline: 1-800-559-2927. Safe Voices serves all of Oxford County and provides emergency shelter, court advocacy and support groups with child care. Rumford office 369-0750; Norway office 743-5806.

AA Meetings/help

Bethel Freedom Group: Open Discussion Meeting (seasonal, Thanksgiving through April 1) Saturdays at 4:30 in the Snow Cap Inn conference room, next to the fitness room, at Sunday River Resort.

At United Methodist Church (Main Street, Bethel): Big Book Meeting Sundays at 6 p.m. 12 Step/Traditions Meeting, Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Candlelight Discussion Meeting Fridays at 6 p.m.

Cancer Support

Northern Vista at Home Senior Care offers a free shuttle service to those going to re-occurring chemo or radiation appointments at St. Mary's or Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. To schedule a ride call Gerry McCann, director at 207-836-2173.

Every Thursday, 1:30 to 3 p.m.: Rumford Hospital, Room 357. (877) 336-7287. Support and Education for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. Call to confirm in stormy weather.

Exchanges/Pantries

Clothing Exchange: Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4, Thursday 4 to 6, Saturday, 10 to 12. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours. No exceptions. 824-4090. Clothing may also be dropped off at Northeast Bank on Main Street.

Bethel Food Pantry: serves residents of Albany, Andover, Bethel, East Bethel, West Bethel, Bryant Pond, Gilead, Greenwood, Hanover, Locke's Mills, Mason Township, Newry, Upton, and Woodstock. The Food Pantry is open on the second Monday of each month from noon until 8 p.m. Anyone who needs food should come during those hours, without appointment. The Food Pantry is located in the basement of the Nazarene Church, 16 Church Street in Bethel by the side entrance on Park Street. (Donations should be left on porch at 57 Elm Street. Questions, contact Dave Bean at beand@gouldacademy.org or 207-824-0369.)

Help for the Homeless

Rumford Group Homes, Inc.: operates three homeless shelters, a Maternity Group Home program for homeless pregnant and parenting youth ages 18-21 and Case Management services. Emergency shelter services include the South Paris Men's Shelter, the Norway Family Center for women and their children and the Rumford Family Center for homeless families. To make a referral or to request assistance, please call 743-6363 in the Norway area or 369-9439 in the Rumford area Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information about Rumford Group Homes, Inc., call 364-3551 or visit www.rumfordgrouphomes.org.

Lyme Disease

First Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m.: Lyme Disease Support & Education Group at Beacon House Peer Center, 3 Canal St. Rumford. FMI: 357-1926 or 824-3076. Third Wednes-

day, 6:30-8 p.m. - Lyme Disease Support & Education Group at Telstar High School Library. FMI: 357-1926 or 824-3076.

Mental illness

Beacon House Social Club: 150 Congress Street, Rumford, a drop-in social club for adults suffering with mental, emotional, or physical illness, provides support, relaxation, and socialization. Monday 1 to 5 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesday 3 to 8 p.m.; Friday 2 to 7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oxford County Mental Health Services, support for adults and children with mental illness, same location, second floor, open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call 364-3549 or (800) 335-9999, or in off-hours 928-3222.

Veterans' Services

Maine Veterans Home, S. Paris: Veterans' Advocate visits first and third Wednesday each month, 9-12 noon (743-6300); Rumford 9 to 12 noon second Thursday at VA Clinic at 431 Franklin St. (369-3272). Maine Veterans' Services is located at 29 Westminster St., Lewiston (783-5306). (No visits in July)

Multiple services

Community Concepts: provides Oxford County Head Start, childcare, free rides to Maine Care appointments, subsidized apartments (Bethel, Brownfield, Fryeburg, Norway, Rumford, South Paris), affordable home-ownership opportunities, homeless shelter and assistance with home heating or weatherizing. FMI: call (800) 866-5588 or visit www.community-concepts.org.

Alzheimer's Support

Caregiver Support Group: Second Tuesday of the month, 10 to 11:30 a.m., West Paris Town Office, 26 Kingsbury Street. This group is for anyone caring for a family member or friend with memory loss. New members may join at any time. Free and open to the public. FMI: SeniorsPlus (1-800-427-1241).

Alzheimer's Support Group: meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Rumford Community Home located at 11 John F. Kennedy Lane. All are welcome. For more information call Sue Ellen Richardson, Social Service Director or Terry Drury, Residential Director at 364-7863.

Brain injury support

Brain Injury Support Group: for individuals with brain injuries and their families. West Side NeuroRehab, 618 Main St., Lewiston. First Monday of the month, 6 to 8 p.m. FMI: Deb Hammer 795-6110.

LIBRARY HOURS

Andover Library: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday 1 to 4:30 pm; Thursday 1 to 4:30 & 6 to 8 p.m. Tel: 392-4841.

Bethel Library: Monday 9 to 1; Tuesday 1-5; Wednesday 1 to 8; Thursday & Friday 1 to 5 Saturday, 9 to 1. Story Hour Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m., October to May. Tel: 824-2520.

Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond: Tel: 655-2505. Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 5 p.m.

West Paris Library, West Paris: Monday 1:30 to 6; Wednesday 1:30 to 7; Friday 1:30 to 6; Saturday 10 to 2. Patty Makley, Librarian. Tel: 674-2004

Gardner Roberts Memorial Library, Hanover: Wednesday, 9 to 3; Thursday, 5 to 8; Saturday, 9 to noon.

Calendar items

Calendar items may be brought to the Citizen office, e-mailed to news@bethelcitizen.com or faxed 824-2426. Deadline is Monday at Noon.

DEC

10

2015



GIVING TREE AT PHILBROOK PLACE-The businesses at the Philbrook Place on Main Street in Bethel once again plan to brighten the holiday season for needy children in the area by partnering with customers on a "Giving Tree." The tree holds dozens of tags, each representing a gift for a child. Customers may choose a tag to purchase its gift. There is also a donation box for those who wish to simply contribute cash. Pictured here with the tree are, from left: Sarah Hemeon (Little Bits Consignment); Hayley Tanguay (Community Sports); Kassia Mirski (Revival Boutique); Phil McCrillis (Toys 'n Trendz). A. Aloisio

Where have all the snowbirds gone?

BY PAT STEWART

The colorful foliage is long gone. The docks are stacked on the shore, soon to be replaced by the ice-houses. Some full time area residents have been heard muttering, "All those people from away are finally gone. At last we have out town pretty much to ourselves." Many permanent residents tend to assume that the "summer people" have returned to their home sin faraway places. Well, as Will Rogers said, "Things ain't what they used to be, and they probably never was."

The Community Lakes Association (CLA) aims at protecting and preserving the ponds of Woodstock and Greenwood: North, South, Round, Shagg, Hicks, Concord, Indian, Twitchell, Oversett, Mud Ponds and Lake Christopher. As part of an effort to expand its membership, the association has looked at the tax lists to see who owns waterfront property in Woodstock and Greenwood and where these owners come from. The association is concerned that fewer than a quarter of the households owning waterfront property are members. They hoped studying



Ken Cole.

Submitted photo

the makeup of pond front population would suggest a way to get more residents involved in this important work. The study produced some surprising facts.

First, the belief that an overwhelming number of alien summer people descend each year is not well founded. Actually, 56 percent of the waterfront property owners in Greenwood and Woodstock are Mainer: 34 percent have their primary residence in Greenwood, Woodstock or other towns in Oxford County. The vast majority of the rest come from other New England states. So a majority of pond residents either live here year round or have their primary residence in a nearby town. As that great philosopher, Pogo, once said, "We have met the enemy and they are us."

Some members of the association have lived in the area for generations. Ken Cole's ancestors were among the earliest settlers. Ken lives on the Greenwood Road in the house he grew up in. His home has a spectacular view of the eastern shore of Twitchell Pond and it's magnificent ledges. Many of his aunts, uncles and cousins live within a mile or two. Coles owned the sawmill at the head of the pond. Ken says he joined the Community Lakes Association because he values their work protecting the natural environment he and his family enjoy. Ken said, "We have the cleanest, purest water you can find and we need to keep it that way. It's not just the boating, fishing and swimming. It's the amazing natural beau-

ty of the area. We are very lucky to live here."

Other members, while not born here, have lifetime associations with the area. Sue and Walt Staples live on Lake Christopher. Their home belonged to Walt's parents who came from Gorham, NH. As a boy, he spent every summer on the pond. When they were able to cut down their full time work schedules, the Staples moved to Bryant Pond full time. The Staples are active in the CLA and are using their professional skills to help the Association grow and prosper. The Staples believe that "the beauty of our lakes and ponds brings people together. It's where we find mutual interests and common goals. For us, the Community Lakes Association gives us a way to be involved, to enjoy meeting and working with others, and to do our part to protect the natural resources of this beautiful area."

Many people would say that Anne Richter is definitely "from away." She is an artist who lives in New York most of the year. But Anne's family has been coming to Twitchell Pond for six generations. Her mother is buried in Hicks Cemetery. She and her husband, Dan Greenfield, spend every moment they can at camp.

Anne says her grandmother's cottage "has been a refuge for us for so long. Of course I'm concerned about environmental issues that might ruin this important family gathering place. I'm pleased that some of my neighbors keep watch on the condition of

the lakes. The pond is my back yard. I would be heart-broken to see the beauty or the quality of the flora and fauna diminished."

These folks are all strong supporters of CLA environmental quality efforts like regular water testing, controlling invasive milfoil, loon monitoring and other programs designed to head off problems before they become serious.

But unfortunately, the CLA Study shows that while some long time residents, like Ken Cole, support the association, in general, much of the strongest support both financial and volunteer help, comes from people who were not born here, but like the Staples and Anne and Dan, have chosen to live here for all or part of the year.

Does this mean that many full time residents who live on the ponds take it for granted that our water resources will survive without any help? Ask homeowners on Pickerel Pond in Limerick or on Belgrade Lakes, or now Shagg Pond and Lake Christopher if this is true. Do they just rely on other people to take care of any problems? Or are they not aware of the fragile nature of our shore land environment? The CLA hopes to discover the answers to these questions and find a way to involve many more members of the community, both long time residents and seasonal visitors, in the critical work of monitoring and preserving our natural resources. For information on how you can get involved, check out the CLA website, www.communitylakesassociation.org.

Santa doesn't always wear red at the West Paris Library

A collection of Santa dolls is visiting the West Paris library's children's room for the Holidays, and one of them is about to go fishing, even though Christmas is fast approaching! This fellow is the most recent addition to Elaine Emery's collection of jolly, 18-inch tall Santas, and her current favorite! She is always on the lookout for an original Santa, and she found this one in South Carolina. Elaine, a library trustee, has been collecting Santas for over 20 years. She was inspired by her mother, Leone Penley, who also loved to decorate for Christmas. All of these unique Santas at the library have merry dimples and "beards" on their chins as white as the snow," but their garb is quite varied. There is a velvet green coat trimmed in fur, a red satin one embroidered in gold, and a couple of Santas prefer plaid, one is even wearing a kilt! They carry not only teddy bears, presents, and Christmas holly, but snow-



shoes, a lantern, and musical instruments. Elaine's Santa Claus collection will be on display into

January, during library hours: Monday and Friday, 1:30 to 6; Wednesday, 1:30 to 7; Saturday 10 to 2.

CHURCH SERVICES

ALBANY

Congregational Church - Hunts Corner, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship and Sunday School at 9 a.m.; Pastor Laird Bean. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the home of Fernand Corriveau.

ANDOVER

First Congregational Church - Linda Couture, pastor. Sunday morning worship 10 to 11 a.m. followed by brunch. All welcome. FMI: 392-3761.

Calvary Bible Church - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. 1063 South Main St. 392-1121.

BETHEL

Bethel Alliance Church - 251 Walker's Mills Rd, Rev. Kevin Bellinger, Senior Pastor and Nicholas Lutzio, Youth Pastor. Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School for adults; 10 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery care and Children's Church are available). Thursdays: 5-7 p.m. Middle and High School Youth Group. FMI: 207-824-2289.

Bethel Church of the Nazarene - 16 Church Street, Bethel. Sunday School, 9:30 (for all ages). Pastor Peter Carter. The third Sunday of every month at 9 a.m. breakfast open to the public, no charge. Morning Worship 10:30. Wednesday evening 6 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study. FMI, transportation or prayer please contact Elaine Carter 415-9136 or Juanita Korhonen 665-2528.

Bethel Episcopal House Church - Bethel House Church meets the third Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. The location will rotate among member homes and the Intervale Meeting House, and the Rev. Nancy Moore from Christ Episcopal, Norway, leads the service and Eucharist. All are invited. FMI contact Rosemary Laban at 850-766-1241 or Christ Episcopal Church at 207-743-6782.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, Our Lady of the Snows - 265 Walkers Mills Road (Route 26). Fr. Gregory Dube may be reached at the parish office 364-4556. Saturday Mass, 6 p.m. Announcements. FMI: 824-2933.

West Parish Congregational - Church Street. Rev. Timothy LeConey. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship and Sunday School Sept-May. Tuesdays: 8 a.m., informal Prayer Group with coffee in the Chapel. All are welcome. First Wednesday of the month: 8 a.m., Mens' Breakfast Group. Entrance in rear of church. All events open to everyone. This is an open and affirming congregation. FMI: 824-2689.

United Methodist - 79 Main Street. Pastor Carol Stevens. Sunday worship service 9 a.m. FMI: 824-2027.

West Bethel Union - Morning worship and 9 a.m. Sunday School. FMI: 836-3533.

Pleasant Valley Bible Pastor Dave Fraher. Sunday Services: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Ladies Bible study Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. Midweek Bible study and prayer, Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana Club Fridays 3:30 to 5 p.m. (Cubbies ages 3/4; Sparks Grades K-2; children may take bus from school). FMI: 836-2828. Visit us on our Facebook page.

Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship: Meets at the Nazarene Church on Saturdays, on Church Street in Bethel. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. FMI: 357-7814.

EAST STONEHAM

Oxford County United Parish Churches in Stoneham and North Waterford - Services at 10 a.m. at the North Waterford Congregational Church (UCC), located on the Five Kezars Road, off Routes 35 & 37, opposite Melby's Market. (North Waterford and East Stoneham Congregational Churches will hold their joint services in the church on Route 5 in East Stoneham during May.) Services held at North Waterford through the winter months. Choir practice 9 a.m., followed by Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

LOCKE'S MILLS

Locke Mills Union - Pastor Sondra Withey. Sunday Morning Service and Sunday School, 9 to 10 a.m. Choir practice at the church every Friday at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. 875-3355.

NORTH WATERFORD/STONEHAM

OXFORD COUNTY UNITED PARISH (North Waterford and East Stoneham) - Summer services at 9 a.m. in the North Waterford Church on Route 35 across from Melby's Eatery. On July 20 a special-and casual-church service will be held on the Fairgrounds during the Waterford World's Fair, with shuttle service available on site. In September, services will return to the East Stoneham Church, Route 5, and the regular hour of 10. All are welcome.

NORWAY/PARIS

First Church of Christ, Scientist - Sunday service 10 a.m., Wednesday Testimony service 7:30 p.m. 5 Morrill Rd/ Rt. 118 (catercorner to Norway Country Club), Norway. Call 207-890-9944 FMI or ride.

Trinity Lutheran Church - Route 117, South Paris. Pastor Nancy Moore. Sunday morning service 11 a.m. with coffee, refreshments and good fellowship.

North Paris Federation - Morse Hill Road, North Paris. Sunday Service 8 a.m. Singership third Sunday each month alternating with West Paris Baptist Church at 7 p.m. FMI: 689-8000.

Oxford Hills Friends (Quakers) - Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. at HOPE Ripley Center, High Street, South Par-

is across the park from the Post Office. FMI: call Ursula Brandon at 665-2880 or Sue Reilly at 966-2012.

Christ Episcopal Church - 35 Paris St., Norway. Services Sunday at 9 a.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 743-6782; e-mail christch@megalink.net.

First Baptist Church of Paris - On the Common at the top of Paris Hill. 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Coffee hour follows the service. Fellowship lunch held the first Sunday of each month following worship. Pastor Ron Blake. FMI 743-2491.

St. Catherine's - Saturday 4 p.m. Vigile Mass; Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass. FMI 743-2606.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Norway - 11 a.m. worship. (Sept. - June) Child care is provided. Religious education classes 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. FMI 743-2828.

OXFORD

St. Mary's - Saturday 4 p.m. Vigile Mass. 276 King St. Oxford.

Our Lady of Ransom: Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass.

SUMNER

East Sumner Congregational - Linda Kimball, pastor. Sunday service, 9 a.m. 207-388-2610.

WEST PARIS

First Universalist Church - 208 Main St., W. Paris. 9 a.m. services September to June. FMI: Bob Clifford 674-3442.

West Paris Baptist - 15 Church St. Sunday Worship 9:45 a.m.; Sunday School- 11 a.m.; Word of Life Youth- 6 p.m. Word of Life Olympians (kids club) - 6 p.m. Wednesday. Ladies' Bible Study- Monday, 6:30 p.m. Food pantry for West Paris residents, first and third Tuesdays of month, 1-3 p.m. Pastor Scott Randolph, 376-6854.

Mission Congregational Church - Wallace Farnum, pastor. Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

WOODSTOCK

Bryant Pond Baptist - Pastor Matt Jones, Sundays: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Evening Service 6 p.m.; Mid-week Service Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Woodstock Seventh day Adventist - Pastor Greg Carlson 207-527-2551, Saturday: 9:20 a.m. Sabbath school. 11 a.m. worship service.

Pinhook Meeting House (Rt. 232, North Woodstock) - Hymn Sing, last Friday of each month, 7 p.m. All welcome.

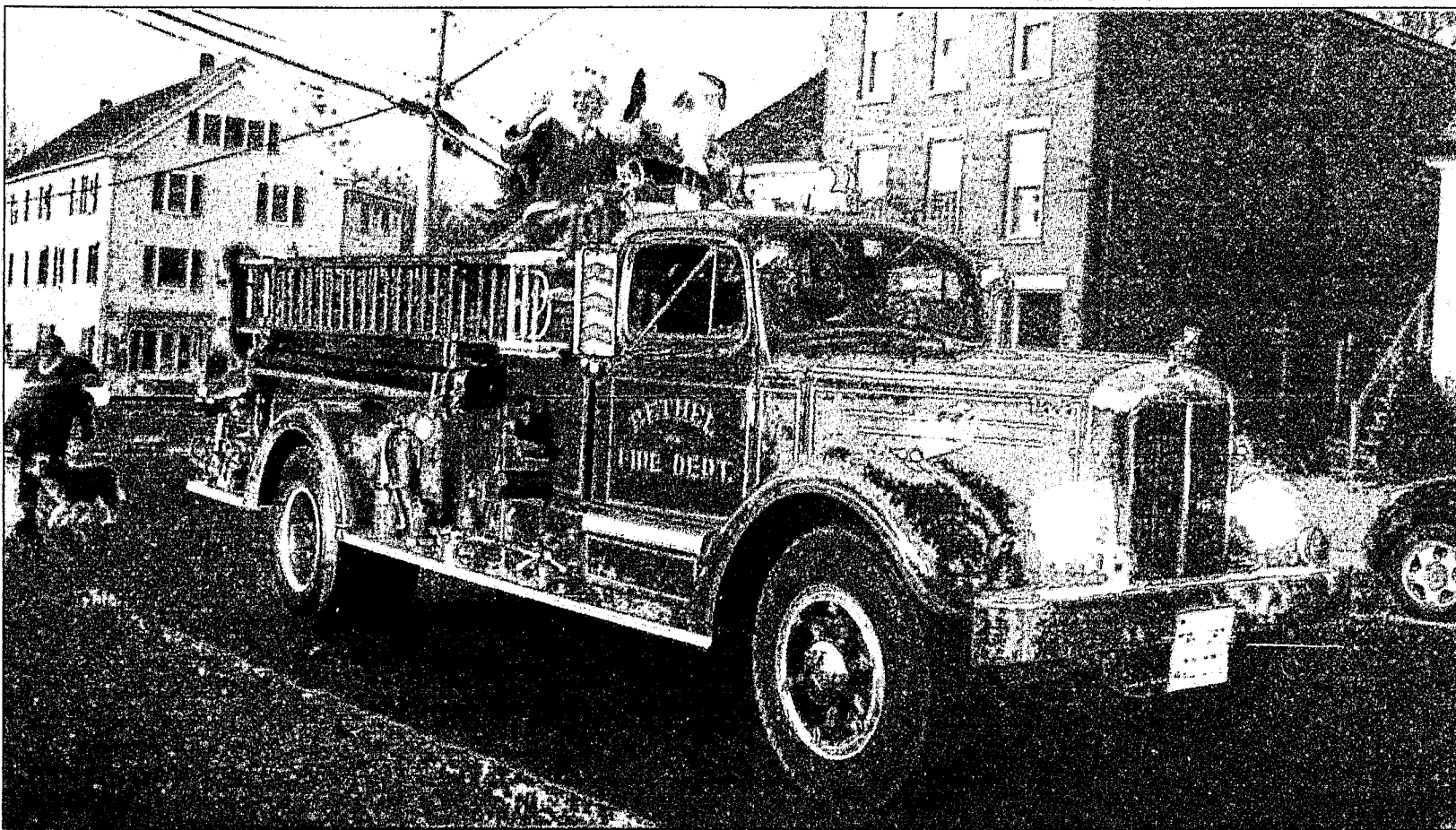
Mahoosuc Mountain Friends - a worship group meeting in the unprogrammed tradition of Friends (Quakers) - Sundays, 9:30 a.m. at the Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Newcomers welcome. FMI: 824-8669.

D
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Bethel rolls out Christmas



Saturday was busy in the Bethel area with many Christmas season events. Among them were the late-afternoon Light Up Main Street Jingle Bell Walk up Main Street, which this year saw participating businesses turn on their holiday lights as the walkers progressed to the top of the street. Santa and Mrs. Claus rode a Bethel fire truck to the Common, where they handed out candy canes before the lighting of the tree on the Common. The Bethel Historical Society also hosted its annual "Christmas with the Masons," featuring mulled cider heated over a fire-place and harp music by Conni St. Pierre.

(Photos: A. Aloisio)



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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

WHAT IS A SKUNK'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY SONG?

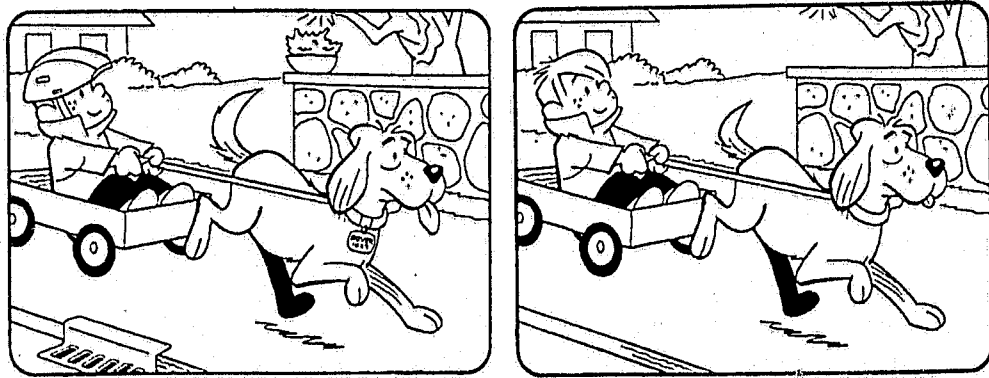
JASPER	PEARS	SLOWED	DOWEL
SHEILA	LEASH	STREAM	TEARS
TEXANS	TAXES	PHRASE	SHARP
GORDON	DONOR	ALMOST	MOATS
VERBAL	BRAVE	FILLED	FIELD
ENVIES	VINES	SCALED	DECAL

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Helmet is missing. 2. Storm drain is missing. 3. Dog's tail is shorter.
4. Flower pot is missing. 5. License tag is missing. 6. Dog's tongue is smaller.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: T equals W

TEAV B SBJGPAOAS EGT ZFIE
QEHQ JQFVVBVR VAT THQIE IGJQ,
B THJ GPAOIGZA TBQE QBIWAO
JEGIW.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Graft
PICSEL
Clench
PRAGS
Distill
FERNIE
Highest
TOTUMS

TODAY'S WORD



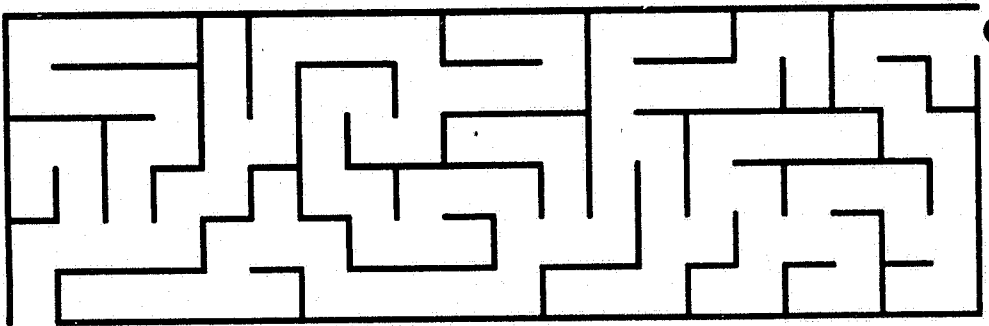
"Another good thing about snow—Dad can't get out an' cook any in the backyard."

Super Crossword

FROM END TO BEGINNING

- ACROSS**
- 1 With a leg on either side of
 - 8 "What—thou?"
 - 14 Curt
 - 20 Be afraid to
 - 21 Stock market worker
 - 22 Pasta piece
 - 23 Province capital on the Yellow River
 - 25 Over there
 - 26 Old-time actress
 - 27 Countless years
 - 28 Aves. and blvds.
 - 29 — Jima
 - 31 See 50-Down
 - 32 Tasty tidbit
 - 35 Director of the Humphrey Bogart film "Sahara"
 - 38 Reduces to bits, as a potato
 - 41 Chief ore of lead
 - 43 Luau necklace
 - 44 Foolaraw
 - 45 Chair part
 - 48 Winner's sign
 - 49 "So long!"
 - 51 The Beatles' "—Be"
 - 56 Greek philosopher known for paradoxes
 - 59 "Avatar" actress
 - 61 Ribald
 - 62 Word after church or film
 - 63 Of the back
 - 64 Cotton machines
 - 65 Yale alum
 - 67 "La Loge" painter
 - 69 Penguin of Antarctica
 - 71 Me, to Mimi
 - 73 European country capital
 - 78 Piloted
 - 79 Not hidden
 - 81 Without delay
 - 82 — Lanka
 - 84 Stadium row
 - 85 Kia sedan
 - 89 Stare open-mouthed
 - 91 Eagerly excited
 - 94 Animal-filled attraction in Georgia
 - 96 Israel Philharmonic director
 - 98 Extrapolate
 - 99 Euro divs.
 - 100 Deep blue
 - 101 Subpar mark
 - 102 Griddle
 - 103 Put a question to
 - 105 Alma — (home schools)
 - 108 Space of the screen
 - 110 Sorority founded at Howard University in 1920
 - 115 Rigid beliefs
 - 118 Flubs up
 - 119 Party game
 - 120 Managed care gp.
 - 122 Luc's "yes"
 - 123 Word-of-mouth
 - 127 London native, e.g.
 - 129 Shooter allowing for an adjustable focal length
 - 133 Altman of film
 - 134 Taking Rx drugs
 - 135 Natural abilities
 - 136 Warnings
 - 137 Hi-fi setup
 - 138 Big hawks
- DOWN**
- 1 Carving tool
 - 2 Funny Mort
 - 3 Very, in Paris
 - 4 Label again
 - 5 Gerund suffix
 - 6 One napping
 - 7 Communal character
 - 8 Erwin of film
 - 9 Parabolas' paths
 - 10 Game with five dice
 - 11 Thomas who founded GE
 - 12 VIP in D.C.
 - 13 Attribute
 - 14 "—home?"
 - 15 Jeering shout
 - 16 Sonata movement
 - 17 Cow dangler
 - 18 Appeal earnestly
 - 19 On — firma
 - 24 Blood type, informally
 - 30 Polish labor leader Lech
 - 33 Major city of Norway
 - 34 Shirley's sitcom friend
 - 36 Toi away
 - 37 "To — a Mockingbird"
 - 38 Motorola cellphone
 - 39 Inking
 - 40 Imagine
 - 42 Meadowland
 - 46 String after D
 - 47 Maestro Solli
 - 50 With 31- Across, hubby's assent
 - 52 Verge
 - 53 Red braking signals
 - 54 Many a navel
 - 55 Stunned with a gun
 - 57 Olive loved by Popeye
 - 58 Lustful look
 - 59 Storied masked swordsman
 - 60 Jai —
 - 63 Formal flats
 - 66 Suffix with final or moral
 - 68 Romney's 2012 rival
 - 70 "—Kapital"
 - 71 Actress Gaynor
 - 72 Kitchen bulb
 - 74 Mil. truant
 - 75 Vigilant
 - 76 Hail — (cry "Taxi!")
 - 77 Slightly warm
 - 80 "Dies —" (hymn)
 - 83 "Norma —"
 - 86 Wolf down
 - 87 Grenade filler
 - 88 "Open up!" follower
 - 90 Propyl ender
 - 92 Redding of song
 - 93 Like slightly spoiled meat
 - 95 Ensnare
 - 96 Closing letter
 - 97 Little plateau
 - 100 Talk like
 - 104 Railroad switches
 - 106 In the house
 - 107 Before long
 - 109 Related compound
 - 110 Bicolor beast
 - 111 Flynn of film
 - 112 Family group
 - 113 Daisy cousin
 - 114 Clowns
 - 116 Enthusiasm
 - 117 Minerals in thin layers
 - 121 Aged, once
 - 124 Descartes of philosophy
 - 125 Culturally pretentious
 - 126 Maiden
 - 128 Meal scrap
 - 130 Ottawa loc.
 - 131 That, to Juan
 - 132 High, snow-capped peak

Kids' Maze

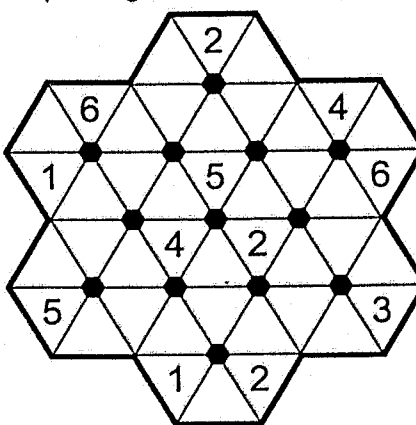


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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	6		2				8	
9				5		1		
		8			4			2
	5		8					9
2			6	1		7		
	7			9		5		
	3			4			7	
		2			7			3
8			1			9		5

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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Kids' Maze Solution

SUPERS

Today's Word

When I discovered how much that stunning new watch cost, I was overcome with sticker shock.

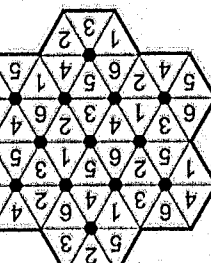
answer

CryptoQuip

SCALED
FILLED
ALMOST
PHRASE
SHARP
TEARS
DOWEL
ENVIES
VERBAL
BRAVE
GORDON
DONOR
TEXANS
SHEILA
JASPER

Answer

Puzzles4Kids



solution

SNOWFLAKES

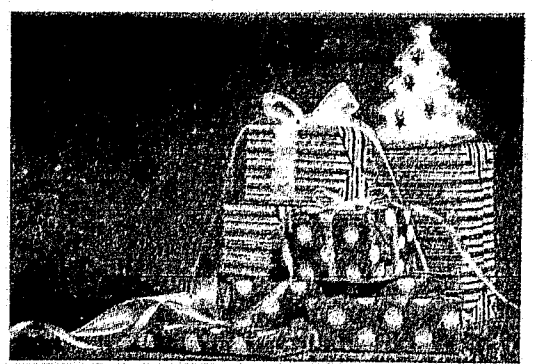
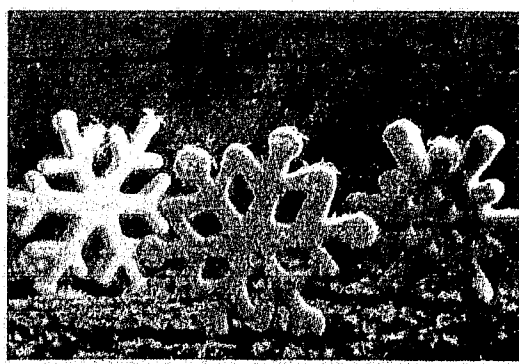
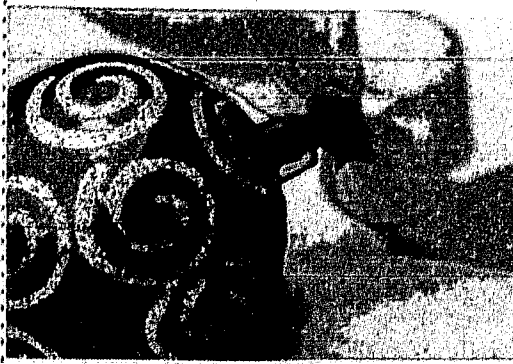
8	7	4	1	3	6	9	2	5
6	9	2	5	8	7	4	1	3
5	3	1	9	4	2	8	7	6
3	4	7	6	1	5	7	3	8
2	4	6	1	5	7	3	8	2
1	5	6	8	7	3	2	4	9
7	1	8	3	6	4	5	9	2
9	2	3	7	8	1	6	5	4
4	5	2	9	1	3	8	7	6

ANSWERS:

D
E
C

1
0

2
0
1
5



Fun and easy treats for your holiday party!

Happening Around Town

Christmas Sing Along Friday, December 11

2pm. Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Jim Burke on keyboard and the Oxford Hill Ukulele Group, back by popular demand, will lead a Christmas sing along. The program is open to the public at no charge, and Christmas-type refreshments will be served.

Children's Stage Adventures Presents The Emperor's New Clothes December 11 & 12

7pm (Dec. 11) 11am (Dec. 12) at Crescent Park School, Bethel. Approximately 50 local children, grades kindergarten through five with present "The Emperor's New Clothes", a musical rendition of the Hans Christian Anderson classic joined with the spirit of the American west.

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides Saturday, December 12

Horse-drawn wagon rides for the whole family! 1-3pm. Sponsored by Oxford Federal Credit Union. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

Winterfest Weekend at Sunday River Saturday, December 12

Meet Santa and Eddy the Yeti (times & locations TBD), \$5 night skiing (4-8 pm), fireworks at South Ridge at 8:30 pm. www.sundayriver.com

Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation Benefit Film Fest Saturday, December 12

at Rockin' & Roastin' Café & Restaurant (formerly The Phoenix). 5-9 pm, films start at 7 pm. Cash bar, raffles, & silent auction to benefit Maine Adaptive's programs for people with disabilities. Films: "Endless Abilities" and "Afterglow." \$18 advance/\$20 at the door.

Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 13

"Were You There On That Christmas Night?" Performed by the community choir from area churches. Directed by Patricia Boyle-Wight. Refreshments following. 4pm. FMI: Joyce Hathaway, 207-674-2259. Locke Mills Union Church, Rt. 26, Locke Mills. (Snow date Dec. 20).

Telstar High & Middle School Winter Concert Tuesday, December 15

7 PM in the Helen C. Berry Auditorium. Featuring performances from the middle and high school bands and choirs.



Local shops have something for everyone on Santa's list!

1. Local businesses are more likely to re-invest the dollars that you spend in the community.
2. Save time! Instead of spending time driving, spend time getting to know your local shopkeepers.
3. Support local producers. Locally-owned shops often stock locally-sourced products, creating value all the way down the line.

Happy Shopping!

7-Layer Mexican Dip

16 oz. can refried beans
2 cups sour cream
1 1/4 oz. pkg. taco seasoning mix
2 avocados, pitted, peeled and mashed
2 tsp lemon juice
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
4 green onions, diced
1/4 cup black olives, sliced
1 tomato, diced
tortilla chips

Spread beans in the bottom of a 10" round or square clear glass dish; set aside. Combine sour cream and seasoning mix; spread over beans. Mix avocados, lemon juice and garlic; layer over sour cream mixture. Sprinkle with cheese; top with onions, olives and tomato. Serve with tortilla chips. Serves 8.

Pepperoni Puffs

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 cup milk
1 egg, beaten
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 1/2 cup pepperoni, diced

Combine flour, baking powder, milk, egg and cheese; mix well. Stir in pepperoni; let stand for 15 minutes. Spoon into greased mini muffin cups, filling 3/4 full. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 35 minutes, until golden. Makes 2 dozen

Maple Chicken Wings

2 to 3 lbs. chicken wings
1 cup maple syrup
2 1/2 cup chili sauce
1/2 cup onion, finely chopped
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
1/4 to 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes

Place wings in a large plastic zipping bag; set aside. Combine remaining ingredients. Reserve one cup for basting; refrigerate until ready to use. Pour remaining marinade over wings, turning to coat. Seal bag; refrigerate for 4 hours, turning occasionally. Drain and discard marinade. Place wings in a lightly greased 13"x9" baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 375 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes, basting with reserved marinade, until golden and juices run clear when pierced. Makes 2 to 3 dozen.

Hot Feta-Artichoke Dip

14 oz. can artichokes, drained and chopped
2 oz. jar pimentos, drained and chopped
8 oz. pkg. crumbled feta cheese
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 clove garlic, minced
1 cup mayonnaise
assorted snack crackers or tortilla chips

Mix all ingredients except crackers or chips. Spread in an ungreased 9" pie plate. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes, until golden and bubbly. Serve with crackers or chips. Makes about 3 cups.

Bacon-Cheddar Cheese Ball

6 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
2 8 oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened
8 oz. pkg. shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
1/2 cup green onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
3 tbsp pimento, diced
3 tbsp fresh parsley, minced
assorted crackers

Combine all ingredients except crackers, blending well. Form into a ball; cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate overnight to allow flavors to blend. Serve with crackers. Makes 8 servings.

Tasty White Spinach Pizza

1 tbsp garlic, minced
2 tbsp olive oil
4 cups baby spinach, diced
12 inch Italian pizza crust
1/2 cup Alfredo sauce
1 cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided
8 oz. pkg. shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
Optional: mushrooms and green olives with pimentos, diced

Sauté garlic in oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add spinach; cook until spinach is wilted and absorbs oil. Remove from heat. Place pizza crust on a lightly greased baking sheet; spread with Alfredo sauce. Sprinkle half the Parmesan and half the mozzarella over sauce. Top with mushrooms and olives, if using. Sprinkle remaining cheese over mushroom layer; top with spinach. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden. Makes 6 servings.

Ranch-Stuffed Mushrooms

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 1/2 tbsp ranch salad dressing mix
1 tbsp onion, minced
2 tsp dried parsley
6 oz. pkg. chicken-flavored stuffing mix
1 1/2 lbs. whole mushrooms, stems removed and discarded
1/2 cup butter, melted

In a large bowl, mix together cheeses, mayonnaise, dressing mix, onion and parsley until well blended. Spread stuffing out on a plate. Fill mushroom caps with cream cheese mixture, then press the tops into the stuffing so that a generous amount of stuffing crumbs sticks to the cream cheese mixture. Place mushrooms on an aluminum foil-lined baking sheet. Drizzle melted butter over mushrooms. Bake at 375 degrees for about 30 minutes, until hot and bubbly. Cool slightly before serving. Makes 2 dozen.

Southwest Potato Skins

6 potatoes
1 lb. ground beef
1/2 cup onion, chopped
1 tsp salt
1 tsp pepper
1 1/4 oz. pkg. taco seasoning
2 12 oz. pkgs. shredded Cheddar cheese
12 oz. pkg. shredded Mozzarella cheese, divided
Garnish: chives, bacon bits and sour cream

Bake potatoes at 450 degrees for one hour, or until potatoes are tender. Cut in half lengthwise and scoop out center of each potato, leaving 1/4-inch around edges. Save centers of potatoes for another recipe. In a large skillet, brown ground beef with onion, salt and pepper; drain. Add taco seasoning and simmer. Place potato halves in a greased 15"x12" baking dish. Sprinkle with half of Cheddar cheese and 2 tablespoons ground beef, then top with mozzarella and remaining Cheddar cheese. Broil 3 to 4 inches from heat source until cheese is bubbly. Sprinkle on chives, bacon bits and sour cream. Makes 12 potato skins.

Rocky Road Brownies

19 1/2 oz. pkg. fudge brownie mix
2 cups mini marshmallows, divided
12 oz. pkg. semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided

Prepare brownie mix as directed on package; spread in a greased 13"x9" baking pan. Sprinkle one cup marshmallows and one cup chocolate chips over batter. Bake according to package directions. Remove from oven; sprinkle with remaining marshmallows and chocolate chips. Let cool completely before cutting into squares. Makes 2 to 3 dozen.

Delectable Peanut Butter Squares

1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
2 cups creamy or crunchy peanut butter
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
6 oz. pkg. semi-sweet chocolate chips

Melt butter in a large saucepan over low heat, stirring to prevent burning. Add brown sugar; stir until completely dissolved. Add peanut butter and vanilla; mix thoroughly. Add powdered sugar; stir well. Press mixture into a 13"x9" baking pan sprayed with non-stick vegetable spray; let cool. Melt chocolate chips in a double boiler over low heat; spread evenly over peanut butter layer. Let cool completely; cut into squares. Makes 1 to 2 dozen.

Holiday Pineapple Punch

2 1 1/2 oz. pkgs. strawberry-flavored drink mix
2 cups sugar
4 qts. plus 3/4 cup water, divided
6 oz. can frozen pineapple juice concentrate
2 liter bottle lemon-lime soda
2 liter bottle strawberry soda
2 1/2 to 3 cups pineapple sherbet, softened

Combine drink mix, sugar and 4 quarts water in a large punch bowl; stir to dissolve. Add juice concentrate and remaining water, mix until concentrate is melted. Add sodas and sherbet; serve over ice. Makes about 2 gallons.



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Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

WORD FUN

Study the two words on each line to find the ONE letter in the left column that is NOT in the word in the right column. Write the extra letter on the blank space. Then read DOWN to answer this riddle:

WHAT IS A SKUNK'S FAVORITE HOLIDAY SONG?

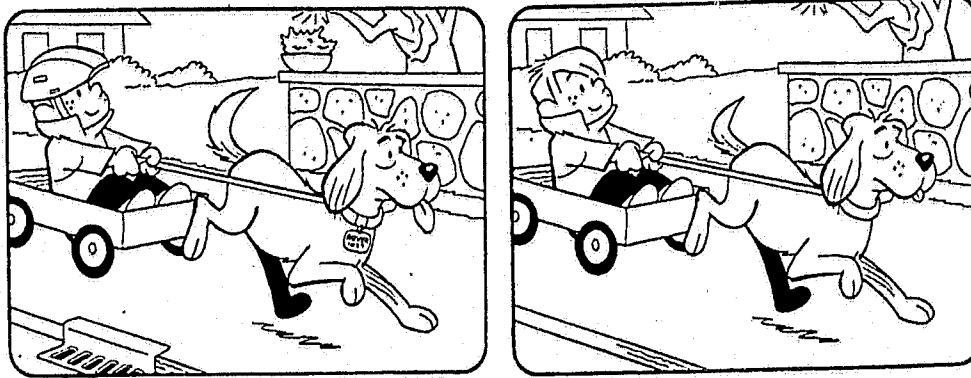
JASPER	PEARS	SLOWED	DOWEL
SHEILA	LEASH	STREAM	TEARS
TEXANS	TAXES	PHRASE	SHARP
GORDON	DONOR	ALMOST	MOATS
VERBAL	BRAVE	FILLED	FIELD
ENVIES	VINES	SCALED	DECAL

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Helmet is missing. 2. Storm drain is missing. 3. Dog's tail is shorter.
4. Flower pot is missing. 5. License tag is missing. 6. Dog's tongue is smaller.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: T equals W

TEAV B SBJGPAOAS EGT ZFIE
QEHQ JQFVVBVR VAT THQIE IGJQ,
B THJ GPAOIGZA TBQE QBIWAO
JEGIW.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

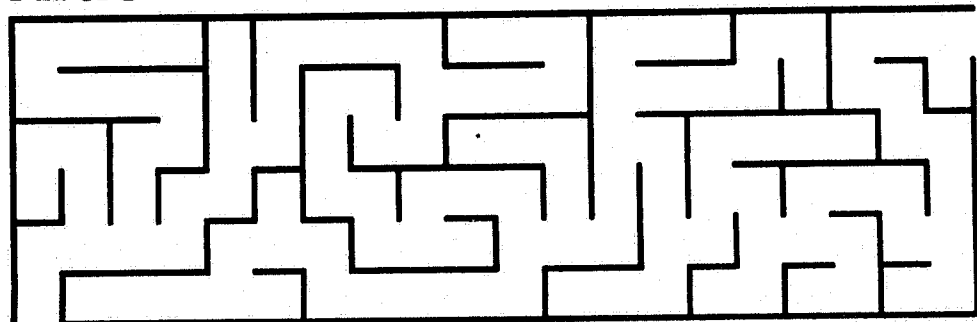


"Another good thing about snow—Dad can't get out an' cook any in the backyard."

Graft
PICSEL
Clench
PRAGS
Distill
FERNIE
Highest
TOTUMS

TODAY'S WORD

Kids' Maze



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Super Crossword

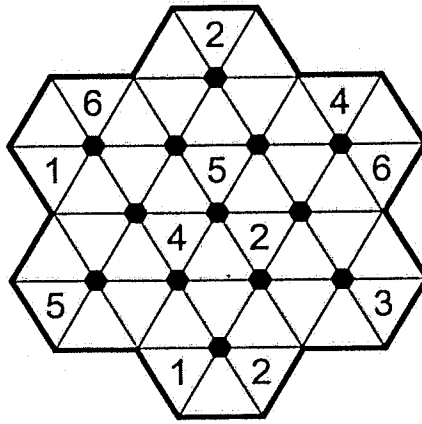
FROM END TO BEGINNING

- ACROSS
- 1 With a leg on either side of
 - 8 "What thou?"
 - 14 Curt
 - 20 Be afraid to
 - 21 Stock market worker
 - 22 Pasta piece
 - 23 Province capital on the Yellow River
 - 25 Over there
 - 26 Old-time actress
 - 27 Countless years
 - 28 Aves, and birds.
 - 29 — Jima
 - 31 See 50-Down
 - 32 Tasty tidbit
 - 35 Director of the Humphrey Bogart film "Sahara"
 - 38 Reduces to bits, as a potato
 - 41 Chief ore of lead
 - 43 Luau necklace
 - 44 Foolfaraw
 - 45 Chair part
 - 48 Winner's sign
 - 49 "So long!"
- DOWN
- 51 The Beatles' "—Be"
 - 56 Greek philosopher known for paradoxes
 - 59 "Avatar" actress
 - 61 Ribald
 - 62 Word after church or film
 - 63 Of the back
 - 64 Cotton machines
 - 65 Yale alum
 - 67 "La Loge" painter
 - 69 Penguin of Antarctica
 - 71 Me, to Mimi
 - 73 European country capital
 - 78 Piloted
 - 79 Not hidden
 - 81 Without delay
 - 82 — Lanka
 - 84 Stadium row
 - 85 Kia sedan
 - 89 Stare open-mouthed
 - 91 Eagerly excited
 - 94 Animal-filled attraction in Georgia
 - 96 Israel
 - 98 Extrapolate
 - 99 Euro divs.
 - 100 Deep blue
 - 101 Subpar mark
 - 102 Griddle
 - 103 Put a question to
 - 105 Alma — (home schools)
 - 108 Space of the screen
 - 110 Sorority founded at Howard University in 1920
 - 115 Rigid beliefs
 - 118 Flubs up
 - 119 Party game
 - 120 Managed care gp.
 - 122 Luc's "yes" movement
 - 123 Word-of-mouth
 - 127 London native, e.g.
 - 129 Shooter allowing for an adjustable focal length
 - 133 Altman of film
 - 134 Taking Rx drugs
 - 135 Natural abilities
 - 136 Warnings
 - 137 Hi-fi setup
 - 138 Big hawks
 - 1 Carving tool
 - 2 Funny Mort
 - 3 Very, in Paris
 - 4 Label again
 - 5 Genud suffix
 - 6 One napping
 - 7 Communal character
 - 8 Erwin of film
 - 9 Parabolas' paths
 - 10 Game with five dice
 - 11 Thomas who founded GE
 - 12 VIP in D.C.
 - 13 Attribute
 - 14 "— home?"
 - 15 Jeering shout
 - 16 Sonata
 - 17 Cow dangler
 - 18 Appeal earnestly
 - 19 On — firma
 - 24 Blood type, informally
 - 30 Polish labor leader Lech
 - 33 Major city of Norway
 - 34 Shirley's sit-com friend
 - 36 Toi away
 - 37 "To — a Mockingbird"
 - 38 Motorola cellphone
 - 39 Inkling
 - 40 Imagine
 - 42 Meadowland
 - 46 String after D
 - 47 Maestro Soliti
 - 50 With 31-
 - 52 Verge
 - 53 Red braking signals
 - 54 Many a navel
 - 55 Stunned with a gun
 - 57 Olive loved by Popeye
 - 58 Lustful look
 - 59 Storied masked swordsman
 - 60 Dai —
 - 63 Formal flats
 - 66 Suffix with final or moral
 - 68 Romney's 2012 rival
 - 70 "— Kapital"
 - 71 Actress Gaynor
 - 72 Kitchen bulb
 - 74 Mil. truant
 - 75 Vigilant
 - 76 Hail — (cry "Taxi!")
 - 77 Slightly warm
 - 80 "Dies —" (hymn)
 - 83 "Norma —"
 - 86 Wolf down
 - 87 Grenade filler
 - 88 "Open up!" follower
 - 90 Propyl ender
 - 92 Redding of song
 - 93 Like slightly spoiled meat
 - 95 Ensnare
 - 96 Closing letter
 - 97 Little plateau
 - 100 Talk like Porky Pig
 - 104 Railroad switches
 - 106 In the house
 - 107 Before long
 - 109 Related compound
 - 110 Bicolor beast
 - 111 Flynn of film
 - 112 Family group
 - 113 Daisy cousin
 - 114 Clowns
 - 116 Enthusiasm
 - 117 Minerals in thin layers
 - 121 Aged, once
 - 124 Descartes of philosophy
 - 125 Culturally pretentious
 - 126 Maiden
 - 128 Meal scrap
 - 130 Ottawa loc.
 - 131 That, to Juan
 - 132 High, snow-capped peak

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	6		2				8	
9				5		1		
		8			4			2
	5		8					9
2			6	1		7		
		7			9		5	
	3			4			7	
		2			7			3
8			1			9		5

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★★ HOO BOY!

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Kids' Maze Solution

SCRAMBLERS

Today's Word

1. Splinter; 2. Grasp; 3. Refine; 4. Utmost

When I discovered how much that blundered with tickler

shock.

answer

Cryptoquip

SCALED

FILLED

ALMOST

 PHRASE || TEARS | TEARS | TEARS | TEARS |
DOWEL	DOWEL	DOWEL	DOWEL
VERBAL	VERBAL	VERBAL	VERBAL
GORDON	GORDON	GORDON	GORDON
TEXANS	TEXANS	TEXANS	TEXANS
LEASH	LEASH	LEASH	LEASH
PEARS	PEARS	PEARS	PEARS

ANSWER

SCRAMBLERS

SCALED

FILLED

ALMOST

PHRASE

TEARS

TEARS

TEARS

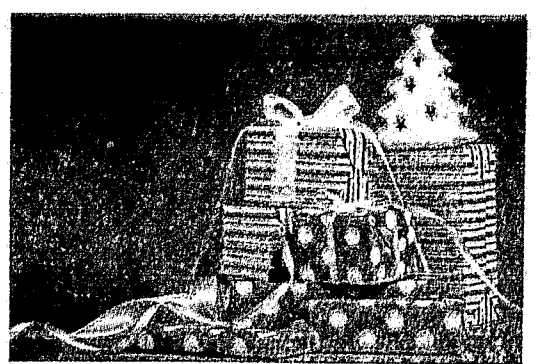
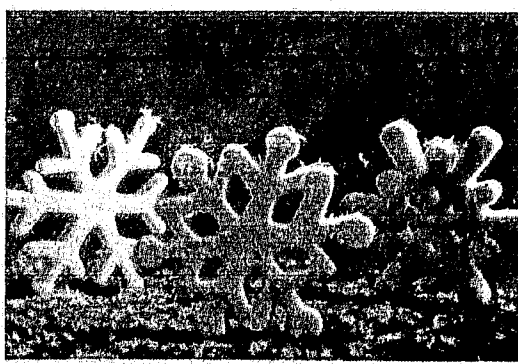
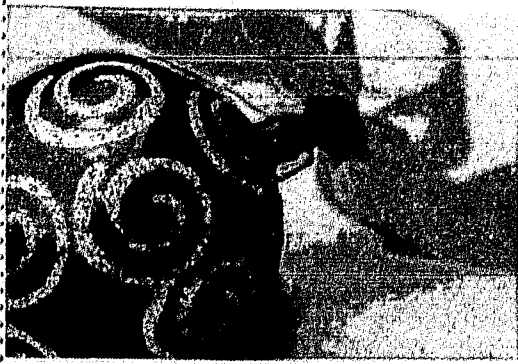
TEARS

TEARS

TEARS

TEARS

TEARS



Fun and easy treats for your holiday party!

Happening Around Town

Christmas Sing Along Friday, December 11

2pm. Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Jim Burke on keyboard and the Oxford Hill Ukulele Group, back by popular demand, will lead a Christmas sing along. The program is open to the public at no charge, and Christmas-type refreshments will be served.

Children's Stage Adventures Presents The Emperor's New Clothes December 11 & 12

7pm (Dec. 11) 11am (Dec. 12) at Crescent Park School, Bethel. Approximately 50 local children, grades kindergarten through five with present "The Emperor's New Clothes", a musical rendition of the Hans Christian Anderson classic joined with the spirit of the American west.

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides Saturday, December 12

Horse-drawn wagon rides for the whole family! 1-3pm. Sponsored by Oxford Federal Credit Union. Meet at the north end of the town common near the Chapman Inn for rides through historic Bethel village. Rides given by Deepwood Farm.

Winterfest Weekend at Sunday River Saturday, December 12

Meet Santa and Eddy the Yeti (times & locations TBD), \$5 night skiing (4-8 pm), fireworks at South Ridge at 8:30 pm. www.sundayriver.com

Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation Benefit Film Fest Saturday, December 12

at Rockin' & Roastin' Café & Restaurant (formerly The Phoenix). 5-9 pm, films start at 7 pm. Cash bar, raffles, & silent auction to benefit Maine Adaptive's programs for people with disabilities. Films: "Endless Abilities" and "Afterglow." \$18 advance/\$20 at the door.

Christmas Cantata Sunday, December 13

"Were You There On That Christmas Night?" Performed by the community choir from area churches. Directed by Patricia Boyle-Wight. Refreshments following. 4pm. FMI: Joyce Hathaway, 207-674-2259. Locke Mills Union Church, Rt. 26, Locke Mills. (Snow date Dec. 20).

Telstar High & Middle School Winter Concert Tuesday, December 15

7 PM in the Helen C. Berry Auditorium. Featuring performances from the middle and high school bands and choirs.



Local shops have something for everyone on Santa's list!

1. Local businesses are more likely to re-invest the dollars that you spend in the community.
2. Save time! Instead of spending time driving, spend time getting to know your local shopkeepers.
3. Support local producers. Locally-owned shops often stock locally-sourced products, creating value all the way down the line.

Happy Shopping!

7-Layer Mexican Dip

16 oz. can refried beans
2 cups sour cream
1 1/4 oz. pkg. taco seasoning mix
2 avocados, pitted, peeled and mashed
2 tsp lemon juice
3 cloves garlic, minced
2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
4 green onions, diced
1/4 cup black olives, sliced
1 tomato, diced
tortilla chips

Spread beans in the bottom of a 10" round or square clear glass dish; set aside. Combine sour cream and seasoning mix; spread over beans. Mix avocados, lemon juice and garlic; layer over sour cream mixture. Sprinkle with cheese; top with onions, olives and tomato. Serve with tortilla chips. Serves 8.

Pepperoni Puffs

1 cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 cup milk
1 egg, beaten
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 1/2 cup pepperoni, diced

Combine flour, baking powder, milk, egg and cheese; mix well. Stir in pepperoni; let stand for 15 minutes. Spoon into greased mini muffin cups, filling 3/4 full. Bake at 350 degrees for 25 to 35 minutes, until golden. Makes 2 dozen

Maple Chicken Wings

2 to 3 lbs. chicken wings
1 cup maple syrup
2/3 cup chili sauce
1/2 cup onion, finely chopped
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
1/4 to 1/2 tsp red pepper flakes

Place wings in a large plastic zipping bag; set aside. Combine remaining ingredients. Reserve one cup for basting; refrigerate until ready to use. Pour remaining marinade over wings, turning to coat. Seal bag; refrigerate for 4 hours, turning occasionally. Drain and discard marinade. Place wings in a lightly greased 13"x9" baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 375 degrees for 30 to 40 minutes, basting with reserved marinade, until golden and juices run clear when pierced. Makes 2 to 3 dozen.

Hot Feta-Artichoke Dip

14 oz. can artichokes, drained and chopped
2 oz. jar pimentos, drained and chopped
8 oz. pkg. crumbled feta cheese
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 clove garlic, minced
1 cup mayonnaise
assorted snack crackers or tortilla chips

Mix all ingredients except crackers or chips. Spread in an ungreased 9" pie plate. Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes, until golden and bubbly. Serve with crackers or chips. Makes about 3 cups.

Bacon-Cheddar Cheese Ball

6 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled
2 8 oz. pkgs. cream cheese, softened
8 oz. pkg. shredded sharp Cheddar cheese
1/2 cup green onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, minced
3 tbsp pimento, diced
3 tbsp fresh parsley, minced
assorted crackers

Combine all ingredients except crackers, blending well. Form into a ball; cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate overnight to allow flavors to blend. Serve with crackers. Makes 8 servings.

Tasty White Spinach Pizza

1 tbsp garlic, minced
2 tbsp olive oil
4 cups baby spinach, diced
12 inch Italian pizza crust
1/2 cup Alfredo sauce
1 cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided
8 oz. pkg. shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
Optional: mushrooms and green olives with pimentos, diced

Sauté garlic in oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add spinach; cook until spinach is wilted and absorbs oil. Remove from heat. Place pizza crust on a lightly greased baking sheet; spread with Alfredo sauce. Sprinkle half the Parmesan and half the mozzarella over sauce. Top with mushrooms and olives, if using. Sprinkle remaining cheese over mushroom layer; top with spinach. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden. Makes 6 servings.

Ranch-Stuffed Mushrooms

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup mayonnaise
1 1/2 tbsp ranch salad dressing mix
1 tbsp onion, minced
2 tsp dried parsley
6 oz. pkg. chicken-flavored stuffing mix
1 1/2 lbs. whole mushrooms, stems removed and discarded
1/2 cup butter, melted

In a large bowl, mix together cheeses, mayonnaise, dressing mix, onion and parsley until well blended. Spread stuffing out on a plate. Fill mushroom caps with cream cheese mixture, then press the tops into the stuffing so that a generous amount of stuffing crumbs sticks to the cream cheese mixture. Place mushrooms on an aluminum foil-lined baking sheet. Drizzle melted butter over mushrooms. Bake at 375 degrees for about 30 minutes, until hot and bubbly. Cool slightly before serving. Makes 2 dozen.

Southwest Potato Skins

6 potatoes
1 lb. ground beef
1/2 cup onion, chopped
1 tsp salt
1 tsp pepper
1 1/4 oz. pkg. taco seasoning
2 12 oz. pkgs. shredded Cheddar cheese
12 oz. pkg. shredded Mozzarella cheese, divided
Garnish: chives, bacon bits and sour cream

Bake potatoes at 450 degrees for one hour, or until potatoes are tender. Cut in half lengthwise and scoop out center of each potato, leaving 1/4-inch around edges. Save centers of potatoes for another recipe. In a large skillet, brown ground beef with onion, salt and pepper; drain. Add taco seasoning and simmer. Place potato halves in a greased 15"x12" baking dish. Sprinkle with half of Cheddar cheese and 2 tablespoons ground beef, then top with mozzarella and remaining Cheddar cheese. Broil 3 to 4 inches from heat source until cheese is bubbly. Sprinkle on chives, bacon bits and sour cream. Makes 12 potato skins.

Rocky Road Brownies

19 1/2 oz. pkg. fudge brownie mix
2 cups mini marshmallows, divided
12 oz. pkg. semi-sweet chocolate chips, divided

Prepare brownie mix as directed on package; spread in a greased 13"x9" baking pan. Sprinkle one cup marshmallows and one cup chocolate chips over batter. Bake according to package directions. Remove from oven; sprinkle with remaining marshmallows and chocolate chips. Let cool completely before cutting into squares. Makes 2 to 3 dozen.

Delectable Peanut Butter Squares

1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
2 cups creamy or crunchy peanut butter
1 tsp vanilla extract
2 1/2 cups powdered sugar
6 oz. pkg. semi-sweet chocolate chips

Melt butter in a large saucepan over low heat, stirring to prevent burning. Add brown sugar; stir until completely dissolved. Add peanut butter and vanilla; mix thoroughly. Add powdered sugar; stir well. Press mixture into a 13"x9" baking pan sprayed with non-stick vegetable spray; let cool. Melt chocolate chips in a double boiler over low heat; spread evenly over peanut butter layer. Let cool completely; cut into squares. Makes 1 to 2 dozen.

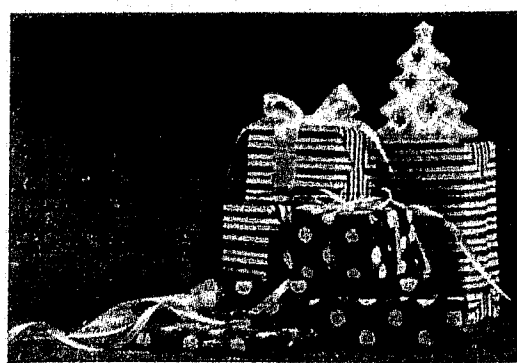
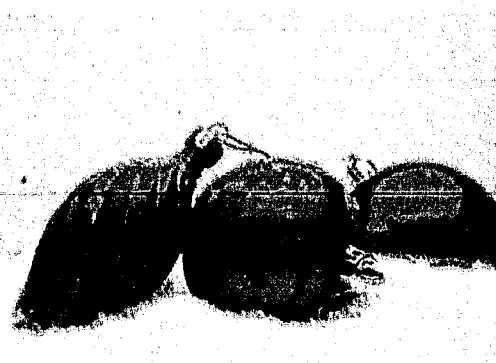
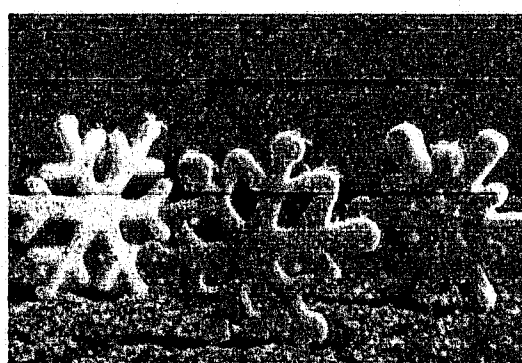
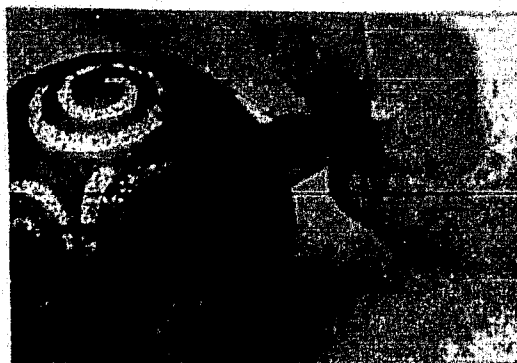
Holiday Pineapple Punch

2 1 1/2 oz. pkgs. strawberry-flavored drink mix
2 cups sugar
4 qts. plus 1/4 cup water, divided
6 oz. can frozen pineapple juice concentrate
2 liter bottle lemon-lime soda
2 liter bottle strawberry soda
2 1/2 to 3 cups pineapple sherbet, softened

Combine drink mix, sugar and 4 quarts water in a large punch bowl; stir to dissolve. Add juice concentrate and remaining water; mix until concentrate is melted. Add sodas and sherbet; serve over ice. Makes about 2 gallons.



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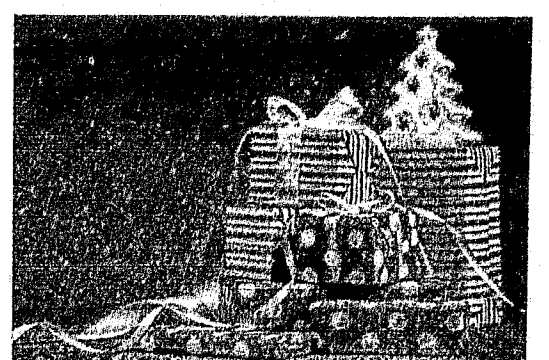
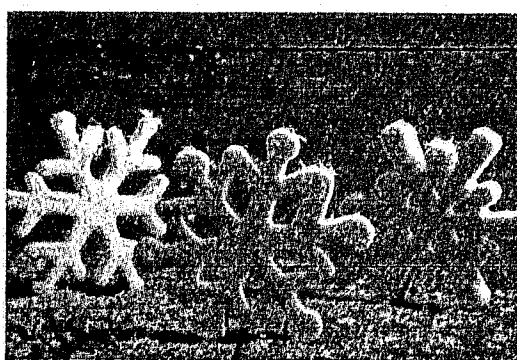
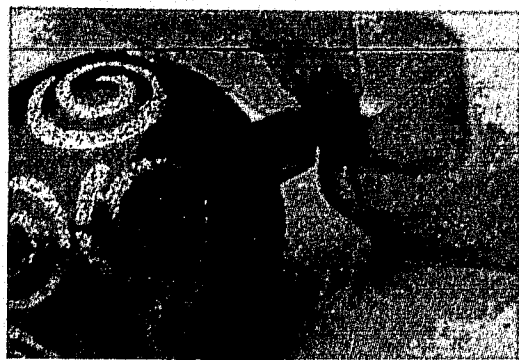
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The benefits to buying local this holiday season

Holiday shopping dominates many people's free time between the day after Thanksgiving and the final days before Christmas. While many people may shop 'til they drop on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, those days still account for a relatively small amount of the hundreds of billions of dollars that are spent each holiday season. Shoppers now have a bevy of options at their disposal as they embark on holiday shopping season. Traditional in-store retailers are still around, and online shopping continues to grow in popularity with each holiday season. But many holiday shoppers are looking to buy local this holiday season, and such a decision can pay a host of dividends for both shoppers and the communities they call home.

• Buying local benefits your local economy. Studies from Civic Economics, an economics and strategic planning firm, found that independent, locally-owned retailers return a far greater percentage of their revenue into their local economies than national chain stores. One such study examined the disparity between revenue recirculation among independent, locally-owned businesses in Raleigh, North Carolina, versus four major national chains in the city. The former recirculated 51.1 percent of revenue into the local economy, while the latter recirculated less than 14 percent. Similar results were discovered in many cities, indicating that buying local not only benefits local business owners, but also the communities those

owners and their customers call home.

• Buying local creates jobs in your community. One of the biggest ways local business owners in Raleigh recirculated their revenue in the local economy was job creation. While national chains also create jobs, such jobs only benefit your community if the chains are located within your community. If your local mall is a considerable drive away, chances are the chains within that mall are not employing many of your fellow community members. Local businesses in your community are more likely to employ residents of your town.

• Shopping local may provide access to more unique gifts. In addition to the economic benefits of buying local, shoppers may find merchandise made by local craftsmen is more unique than mass-produced items found on the shelves of national retailers. Recipients may cherish more unique items that they cannot find on their own, and that appreciation may even spur them to visit more local retailers after the holiday season has come and gone, benefiting their own communities in so doing.

• Local business may provide a more personal touch. Buying from national chains has its advantages, but customer service is not always one of them. Should your loved ones encounter problems with their gift that requires assistance, they might be forced to wait on the phone for extended periods of time



as they and thousands of others wait for customer service representatives to answer their calls. Local businesses do not deal with nearly the volume of customers as national retailers and, therefore, are capable of addressing concerns more quickly and personally than large chains.

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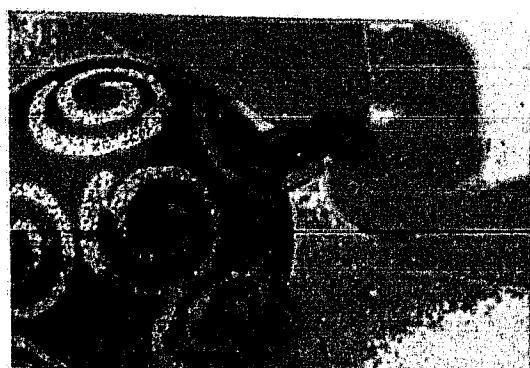
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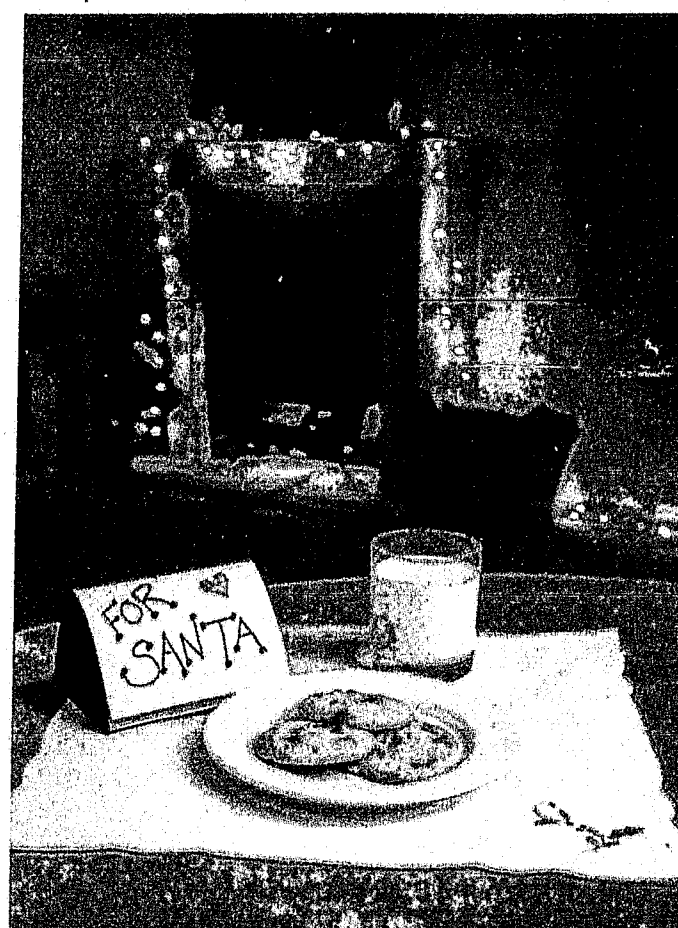
Did you know?

Leaving cookies and milk for Santa Claus is a Christmas Eve tradition. Children regularly place a dish of cookies and a glass of milk by the tree on Christmas Eve so that Santa has enough energy to complete all of his gift-giving before kids wake up on Christmas morning.

The tradition of leaving cookies out on Christmas Eve may trace its origins to Saint Nicholas. On the feast of St. Nicholas on December 6, children would leave food and drink for the saint and any attendants. The treats would be exchanged for gifts.

While that's one theory behind the tradition, others think it is linked to the history of the Christmas tree and the edible decorations that adorn it. Santa would snack on the ornaments. Even after edible decorations gave way to inedible ornaments, the tradition of leaving a snack for Santa remained.

Whatever the origins behind the tradition, millions of children dutifully leave milk and cookies for Santa on Christmas Eve to this day.



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Backyard Reflections

BY SARA WRIGHT

The Hare and the Moon

In many cultures the hare is associated with moon deities. In Nordic myths the white hare is often portrayed as a familiar of the "snow goddess." Attending to her sleigh, the hares hold candles illuminating the goddess who travels by night over the snow under a white moon. Hares are always under her protection. In Greece hares are sacred to Artemis, who is the goddess of the moon, a protector of animals and the wilderness. In Asian cultures like China the hare inhabits the moon, is male, and can be seen mixing the elixir of immortality with a mortar and pestle when the moon is full. Native American mythology associates the hare with vi-

sionary tendencies, has him living with his grandmother in the moon, and also aspects him as a benign trickster figure whose image can be seen hiding in the full moon. In Egyptian culture when the moon is waxing the hare is male, when waning the hare becomes female. Today our culture attributes fertility to the hare and dismisses the other aspects of the animal including its relationship to the moon.

I am always curious about the correlation between an animal's mythology and it's natural history because I have seen how accurately one can inform the other. For example, hares are literally either crepuscular or nocturnal choosing the safety of twilight or darkness in which to travel and feed, and in world mythology these animals are associated with the

night, and with 'wilderness.' Hares avoid the light of the full moon because it exposes them to would be predators like the lynx, fisher, coyote, fox, and owl. Surely jumping into the moon's embrace would help keep any hare stay safe from predation!

Now that the nights come so early I make it a practice to stand at the window to observe who comes into feed at dusk under the pines. Last night I saw my first snowshoe hare of the season nibbling some seed and winter-berry twigs that I had left there for the birds. Lepus americanus was so focused on his dinner that I was able to get a really good look at this animal with my binoculars. The tips of his ears were black but the rest of the rabbit's body was two toned, a blend of creamy white and cinnamon brown. It takes

about 8-10 weeks for the hare to become pure white to match his snowy surroundings and the change in color appears to be controlled by day length. This transformation may allude to the myth of the hare's ability to shift his identity.

Although most hares have very long ears the snowshoe hare does not which makes this hare a bit more difficult to distinguish from the rabbit who also has short ears and belongs to the same family. Because cottontails and snowshoe rabbits have territories that overlap on this property I have learned to look at the tail, the shape of the body and the feet of the animal for positive identification. Hares have longer tails. Hare bodies are larger and more angular than those of the cottontails. When hares leap they look

like kangaroos. Even when feeding the hare's back feet look huge. With the hind feet splayed and the front feet close together, a snowshoe hare can erupt into a full run from a sitting position. Dense long hairs cover the soles of the 5-to-7-inch feet and when pursued this animal can reach the speed of 25 mph and make 10-foot jumps over the snow (last year I measured one leap of 13 feet). This adaptation enables all snowshoe hares to travel over deep snow unless it is too fluffy. These animals are experts at escaping predators, either freezing in the their tracks to blend with vegetation/snow, or by running swiftly and reversing directions. Hares may also make vertical leaps into the air that may cause a predator to misjudge the exact position of the animal from one

moment to the next! This behavior might account for the trickster aspect of the hare in mythology.

Snowshoe hares live in forested areas with thick ground cover or riverside thickets throughout the northern climates of the United States, Canada, and Alaska (hares are also found in Europe, Asia and throughout the world and some turn white but they are not snowshoe hares). I believe I have an abundance of hares and rabbits on this property because I have allowed the juniper to spread unimpeded. In the winter the hares browse and strip many juniper twigs from their thickets along my paths. They also feed on buds, berries, bark, willow, poplar and evergreen shoots during the win-

See Reflections, Page 20

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- Photos of past events

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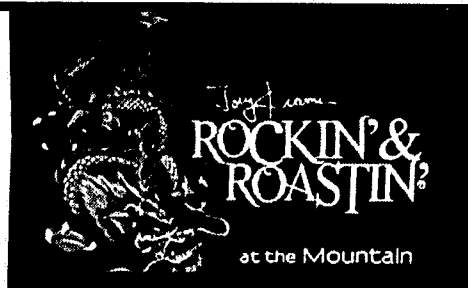
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WOODLOT FOR SALE

The Town of Woodstock Maine is offering for sale, by sealed bid, a property acquired by the town for non-payment of taxes on November 22, 1999. This 50 acre +- woodlot is adjacent to the discontinued section of Billings Hill Road on its southerly end and the Milton Town Line on its northerly end, and has not been harvested in well over twenty years. A Forest Management Plan was prepared for the property in March of 2008 and includes, among other information, the volume of timber on the lot at that time. A complete copy of the FMP is on file at the Woodstock Town Office. A copy of a title search is also available for your review. Selectmen have set the minimum bid at \$30,000.00, with closing to be held within 60 days. Bids for the property will be accepted until December 15, 2015 at 5:00PM. At that time the bids will

The Woodstock Board of Selectmen reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

For further information on this property please contact Vern Maxfield, Town Manager, at the Woodstock Town Office at 1-207-665-2668.



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Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County. Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter at 9 Swallow Road in South Paris Tues, Wed, Thurs: 12-4 pm; Fri: 12-6pm; Sat & Sun: 12-5pm. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website at www.rpc.petfinder.com. For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, call Responsible Pet Care after noon at 743-8679.

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Newry Residents

Nomination Papers will be available **Monday, December 14, 2015** at the Newry Town Office for any Newry Resident interested in running for the following offices:

- **Selectman/Assessor/Overseer of Poor:** 3 year term beginning March 2016
- **MSAD #44 School Board Director:** 3 year term beginning March 2016

Not less than 10 nor more than 25 signatures of registered Newry voters are required to file nomination papers at the Town Clerk's Office.

Deadline for completed nomination papers are due back at the Town Office by 5:00pm on Monday, January 25, 2016 which is the required 45 days before the annual town meeting.

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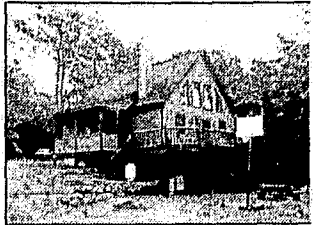
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Obituaries



GEORGE G. KNIGHT

George G. Knight, 75, of MacBurnie Road, Presque Isle, died Monday, Dec. 7, 2015 at the Rumford Community Home, Rumford.

He was born in Presque Isle on Dec. 30, 1939 and was the son of Bernard and Christine (Estes) Knight. George graduated from Presque Isle High School and attended Husson College where he received his Associates degree.

George worked as an accountant at the International Paper Company in Presque Isle for many years until it shut down and then for many years as an accountant at Defense Finance & Accounting Service until retirement.

He was married in May of 1966 in Royersford, Pa. to the former Joyce Bush who predeceased him. Survivors include daughters Tiffany Colby and husband Kevin of Bethel, and Christine Allen and husband Daniel of Ashburnham, Mass.; sister Marilyn Casey of Portage Lake; seven grandchildren Miranda, Marianna and Nikolas Colby of Bethel, Matchurin, Peterson, Isabella and Caleb Allen of

Ashburnham, Mass.; and was predeceased by his parents, wife, and brothers Richard and Robert Knight.

Friends are invited to sign the family guest book and share their thoughts, condolences and memories online at www.mead-erandson.com. At his request there are no services.



THEODORE E. COLBY

Theodore E. Colby "Ted", 66 of Jefferson, N.H. passed away surrounded by his family on Dec. 3, 2015 at Tugus Springs Veterans Center. He was born in North Conway, N.H. on Dec. 30, 1948 to Earl and Nettie Colby. Later in life, he moved to the East Bethel area where he was raised by his foster parents, Lewis and Rose Smith. In his teenage years, he left High School to join the United States Army during the Vietnam War. After joining the Army in 1966, he became part of the 82nd Air Borne and joined the Special Forces. He proudly served in the Vietnam War, receiving several medals for his service, including the Bronze Star. He was Hon-

orably Discharged from the Army in 1969. He returned to the Maine/New Hampshire area and worked in various Mills until he found his true calling of Long Haul Trucking. He drove truck for over 45 years, a long term employee of Decatos Brothers Trucking, and, later in his career, Jewell Transport. He proudly drove his black Peterbilt and lived by his motto, "Pride in Your Ride." He left behind many good friends and good times on the road. His sense of humor and playful demeanor will be missed by all who had the privilege of meeting him.

He is survived by his children: Tuesday Kempf and partner Brian, Tara Glover and husband Todd, Ted Colby and wife Penny, and Timothy Colby. He was very close with all his siblings: Raymond Colby and wife Lucinda, Linda Marston and husband Blaine, Norma Taylor, Carol Bering, Rosemary Lilly and husband Albert, and Nancy Colby. He also shared a strong bond with his foster brothers and sisters: Grace Gross and husband Neil, Robert Parker and wife Charlotte, Russell Parker, Robert Crouse, and Eleanor Ryerson. He also leaves behind several grandchildren, numerous other family members and friends. He is predeceased by his parents Earl and Nettie Colby, his Foster parents Lewis and Rose Smith, Sr., Sister Mildred Cole and husband Jim, and brothers Stanley Colby, Willard Colby, Albion Smith, and Lewis Smith, Jr.

There will be a Military graveside service at the Maple Grove Cemetery, Dresden, Thursday, Dec. 10 at 1 p.m. All are welcome. Arrangements are under the care of Kincer Funeral Home, 130 Pleasant Street, Richmond, Maine 04357.

Local business leaders complete professional development session at vacation rental meeting

Amanda and Anthony DeJulio and Cindy Hiebert of Rent Bethel attended and completed an intensive series of professional development educational sessions, conducted by industry leaders from all over the United States at the first statewide annual meeting of vacation rental professionals held at the Augusta Country Club

on Dec. 3, 2015.

Audrey L. Miller, President, VRPOME (Vacation Rental Professionals of Maine) and co-owner of the Cottage Connection in Boothbay said that "the turnout for this first event was even better than expected with about 30 companies represented and some individual property owners as well."

VRPOME sponsored the educational seminars, bringing in speakers from Maine and also nationally, to talk about the growing vacation rental industry and the many changes that are occurring internationally and nationally and the impact these changes will have on Maine vacation rentals.

Reflections

Continued from page 17

ter months. In the summer, clover, flowers and grasses are foods of choice. Hares have sharp incisors that neatly clip the vegetation.

Snowshoe hares mate and reproduce from March to August and three to four litters are common with two to three leverets born each month. The young are born fully furred with eyes open and are capable of hopping about a few hours after birth. They weigh about two ounces. The female provides little in the way of a nest choosing dense underbrush for birthing and the young can hop around after just a few hours and are ready to leave within a few days. They nurse infrequently (once a day according to some sources) and are on their own usually within a month. By this time the female may once again be pregnant lending credibility to the myth of hares that are associated with fertility and the twenty-eight day cycle of the moon.

Every 10 years or so snowshoe hare populations rise and fall dramatically and this phenomenon has been documented for a couple of hundred years. The hare cycle has mystified researchers who have studied the variables of food availability, pre-

dation - the relationship between predator and prey (especially the lynx, a specialist predator, whose populations rise and fall along with the hares) as well as the role of social interaction as possible causes - all factors that may drive the fluctuation but no final conclusions have been reached. Some of the latest studies suggest that stress whether in the form of predation, disease, or scarcity of food may be the most significant factor in lowering reproduction in female hares. But all the above hypotheses really don't answer the question of why hare populations fluctuate so dramatically on a cyclic basis in the first place unless one is willing to entertain the idea that cycles of abundance and attrition are one way that nature creates balance over long periods of time.

Hares live in close proximity to each other and rabbits. Both sexes occupy small home ranges of a few acres, and they communicate by smell, often rubbing noses, thumping their back feet and making guttural noises. They let out a blood-curdling scream when threatened. During courtship they will chase each other, stop abruptly and reverse directions to jump over one another's backs. Hares, like rabbits, spend days resting under dense conifer branches, thick brush or juniper thickets. At night they travel along well-defined paths

ways or trails that can be easily identified in either winter or summer. Droppings are also a clue to their presence and they have to ingest them twice! In the summer snowshoe hares use dusting to rid themselves of ticks.

When I was young my little brother and I found a baby rabbit (which I am quite certain now was a hare) and fed the leveret with pabulum that we squirted through the nipple of one of my doll's bottles. We kept the youngster outdoors in a tall cardboard box full of grasses and fresh clover for about two weeks where he seemed to be thriving. One day we discovered that our charge had simply vanished without a trace! No doubt the hare had simply gotten big enough to jump out of the box and return to the woods around my grandparents farm where he had been born.

One cautionary lesson to be learned from this childhood experience is that small snowshoe hares, unlike rabbits, are on their own very early on and can be easily mistaken for an "abandoned" baby. They are absolutely irresistible when they are little. If you find a young hare in the spring it is probably doing just fine, and if you leave it alone the leveret will return to its mother to feed when nightfall approaches if not before.

The white hare is a common motif in visual art, and often appears in paintings with women who are goddesses (including Mary) reflecting pre-Christian mythological influences. Almost everyone is probably familiar with the secular watercolor of Durer's hare (Young Hare). This European brown hare is one of the most famous depictions of an animal in the history of European art. There is an unusual wooden carving of three hares at Paderborn Cathedral in Devon (England) and another in a monastery in Switzerland. This animal "trinity" is linked to Christian, Jewish, Islamic, and Buddhist sites that stretch back to about 600 AD. My guess is that the three hares represent a Trinity that is much older, depicting the three aspects of the pre-Christian Triple Goddess as Maiden, Mother, and Crone, all of which are associated with hares and the moon.

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